

## Europeans fear US tough line

America's tough line with the Soviet Union is worrying European leaders who believe the mood of anti-Sovietism in Washington, together with the huge planned increase in American defence spending will effectively undermine attempts to open a new round of talks on limiting medium-range missiles in Europe. On the American side there is dismay that some European leaders are not prepared to accept assurances that the United States will fulfil its commitment on the Salt talks by the end of the year. Sweden has criticized both superpowers for allowing their arms build-up to threaten the future of mankind. Page 6



## Wimbledon snub for McEnroe

The All England Lawn Tennis Club announced that John McEnroe, the new Wimbledon men's singles champion, should not be elected to honorary membership, although it is custom for singles winners to be recognized in such a way. It was felt that McEnroe's behaviour during Wimbledon brought the game into disrepute. Page 16

## Takeover agreed for 'Observer'

The Government has finally agreed to Lorch's takeover of The Observer after the company agreed to stronger guarantees on editorial independence. The conditions are similar to those agreed with News International bought The Times. Lorch said it would soon launch an evening newspaper for London. Back page.

## Japan agrees to curb car exports

Japanese car manufacturers have agreed to hold their share of the British car market down to 11 per cent, and have promised similar curbs on light van exports. But they told a delegation of Britain's Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders that they found it impossible to meet British demands to hold down exports of commercial vehicles. Page 19

## Petrol price war looms

Another petrol price-war may start if the big oil companies try to increase pump prices by 5p or 7p a gallon after the pound's slide against the dollar. Prices rose by 10p a gallon only a month ago and considerable market resistance to the increase is feared. Page 19

## Theatres still draw crowds

Theatre is the most popular entertainment for Londoners, attracting 100,000 of them a month, an NOP poll for the Society of West End Theatres says. Travel costs were found to be a bigger deterrent to potential customers than seat prices. Page 3

## New strike wave hits Poland

Employees of the Polish airline Lot have struck for four hours disrupting flights in protest against the governments refusal to name a general manager of their choice. Public transport workers struck in Bydgoszcz demanding the removal of the municipal director. The new strike waves increased tension before the party congress which opens next week. Page 6

## Smear test plea

Women should be screened for cancer of the cervix from an age younger than 35, a government report suggests. Because of earlier sexual activity, women are at risk at a younger age. Page 4

## Cabinet considers riot Act

# Whitelaw action to make parents pay children's fines

By Philip Webster and Julian Haviland

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Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, announced in Warrington last night that the Government would legislate in the next year to strengthen the powers of the courts to involve parents in the consequences of offences committed by their children. Parents are to be required to pay the fines of all children under 17 unless it can be proved that such action by the court would be unreasonable.

It is understood that a Criminal Justice Bill incorporating the provisions, based on the White Paper, *Young Offenders*, published last autumn, will be introduced in the next session of Parliament.

As he spoke, large gangs of youths again gathered in Moss Side, Manchester, and there were small skirmishes with police.

By making his announcement in Warrington, the Home Secretary, speaking only a few miles from the scene of the Manchester and Tooting riots, was attempting to boost the apparently flagging Tory vote by ensuring that law and order becomes the dominant issue in the last days of the by-election campaign.

His message, in a speech in support of the Conservative candidate, Mr Stanley Sorrell, was that the Tories are the only party which recognizes that the maintenance of law and order and security for every citizen is the first duty of any responsible government.

Legislation to strengthen the whole range of law on the criminal activities of the young was a major priority for the Conservative Party over the next year.

He said that for too long careless parents had been allowed to escape the full consequences of the neglect of their responsibilities. "It is important at this time that the electors of Warrington take the opportunity presented to them on July 16 to demonstrate their support for our Conservative policies to maintain the authority of the law."

After riots, looting and violence on a scale which took the Government totally by surprise, perplexed and anxious Cabinet ministers yesterday scrapped the agenda for a meeting and spent nearly two and a half hours in the widest discussion of the possible causes and remedies.

Their first concern, it was agreed, must be to support the police in every way with more equipment, if requested, and with adjustments to the law if senior police commanders

needed new powers to control mobs and keep the peace. Ministers discussed introducing a new riot Act, to make it a criminal offence for people to remain on the streets after being warned off by police, and strengthening the Public Order Act, which has been under review for several months, to tighten control over demonstrations and marches.

Amending the race relations laws, to help restrain incitement, was also considered. Nothing was agreed and it may be that no changes to law will be made. But Mr Whitelaw, and Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, were deputed to give further consideration to possible legal changes, and report back to the Cabinet next Thursday.

Mr Whitelaw will give the Government's conclusions to Parliament when he opens a debate on the disorders in Government time, that afternoon.

But yesterday's discussions covered the whole range of public policy in the inner-cities—employment, housing, education, crime—and also of possible action. Nothing was excluded, it was stated afterwards.

The question of expanding public borrowing to fund new resources was not discussed. Whatever their varied views on deficit spending, ministers agreed that value for existing spending in the inner cities is the first priority—"getting the money used better and in a more humane way" as the Prime Minister put it to the Commons yesterday.

But the possibility of redirecting resources was in each minister's mind. It was agreed that half a dozen government departments would prepare papers for next week's Cabinet.

A decision in principle has been taken already to commit fresh funds to relieving youth unemployment. As it happened, the first discussion in Cabinet of such schemes, drawn up by Mr Ian Gifford, Secretary of State for Employment, was due to take place yesterday but has to be postponed until next week.

One immediate problem discussed was compensation for riot victims. The law was considered to be adequate. The problem, it was agreed, was to make sure that payments were fair and made promptly. This is one area where ministers expect to have to find new cash.

Central to yesterday's debate was Mr Whitelaw's report, which compared the scenes in Tooting, Liverpool, which he visited this week, with his experience as Secretary of State for Northern Ireland ten years ago. He reported that very little evidence had been found to support suggestions that the rioting in Liverpool, London and Manchester had been organised centrally, though he had no doubt that political agitators had moved in. The Greater Manchester police had evidence of the riots being organized but in Liverpool there was little sign of this.

Mr Whitelaw was reassuring about the morale of policemen of all ranks. He had visited injured police in hospital, and they were all keen to resume their duties. There was no question of their wanting help from the Army.

Now was there any belief that the style of policing should be more aggressive. They wanted to do their traditional job in the traditional way, but they did want better protective equipment when exposed to violent attack.

Mr Whitelaw agreed with colleagues that there were signs that the rioting in Manchester had come about because young people wanted to imitate the earlier rioting which they had seen on television. This was a worrying factor and ministers do not know how to limit it.

The Prime Minister was strong in his view on the importance of parents exercising their responsibilities, especially towards children of school age. In the Commons later Mrs Thatcher seemed to infuriate the Opposition when she insisted that the Government could not be held solely to blame for what happened. Labour MPs roared their disapproval, for example, when she quoted a press opinion that the violence in Liverpool had nothing to do with pay, housing, or a "naked greed".

In Cabinet, however, she was said to be eager to seek out possible lines of government action and to examine any suggestions.

The idea of her being a vandal and a mugger "ridiculous and absolutely absurd". As for corporal punishment she had no plans for that.

"Why not cut off their hands?" suggested a Labour MP. By this time the Speaker was leaping up and down like a jack in the box while a little local boy was breaking out in a cold sweat. Mr Rook Powell and a group of Labour MPs who seemed to be objecting to his views on ethnic minorities.

"It is impossible for me to hear the Prime Minister," pleaded the Speaker. There were little responses to this plea. As question time ended, Mr Heffer was still demanding to be heard on the grounds that the Prime Minister had attacked the people of Liverpool. "No, she didn't," yelled the Tories. "Yes, she did," Labour MPs shouted back. Whatever Mrs Thatcher had done, Mr Heffer was firmly ruled out of order, whereupon Mr Andrew Fendley, Labour MP for Warrley, East, and another MP with a dangerously low threshold, tried to have Mr Powell certified for his "insane utterances". Mr Powell, sitting a few benches away, was told that though he would immensely enjoy that prospect.

Perhaps, surmised Sir Frederick Burden, Conservative MP for Gillingham, there would be less hooliganism on the streets if there was less hooliganism in the Commons. On that thought provoking suggestion the punks and the skinheads departed to sharpen their knuckledusters for a night of the House carried on with a debate on the Army.

A spokesman added: "There are no fires or burning buildings."



Two ways of staying dry in London yesterday as two inches of rain fell in an hour and Kings Cross Station was closed.

## Woman killed as worst storms for six years hit England

A woman aged 20, was killed by lightning yesterday during the worst thunderstorms to hit parts of England for six years. Miss Catherine Harris, a Wren from Gosport, Hampshire, died soon after she was struck at the Naval Air Station, Yeovilton, Somerset (John Withersow writes).

Storms accompanied by thunder, lightning, and hail affected South-west England, East Anglia, the Midlands, and North-east England. Some of the heaviest rain fell on London disrupting road, rail, and Underground services.

The London Weather Centre said it recorded two inches of rain between 3pm and 4pm. That was the heaviest down-pour since August, 1975, when about six inches of rain fell over a six-hour period.

British Rail said they had to close Kings Cross Station for several hours because of tracks which were flooded up to a depth of 2.5 feet. A platform at Charing Cross was also sealed off because of rain pouring through the roof.

Passengers at King's Cross were told to catch alternative trains at Euston or Finsbury Park. Underground train services were also affected. The Bakerloo line trains did not stop at Charing Cross, and King's Cross underground station closed for almost an hour until staff swept the water from subways.

The police said the rain caused severe traffic problems throughout London as it rose above kerb level in several areas and a number of traffic lights ceased to work. The fire brigade were inundated with calls to flooded basements. They received 100 calls in the greater London area at the height of the storm.

The London Weather Centre said the storms over London started when the temperature at 3 pm was recorded as 25c (79f). They moved north over the city.

The centre forecast more storms in the eastern part of the country early today, although the weather was likely to improve this evening with occasional sunny spells. Weather forecast, back page

## Private cash plan for Gatwick rail service

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

Private enterprise operation of the passenger rail service between London, Victoria, and Gatwick Airport is being discussed by the British Railways Board and merchant banks.

It would be the first "living off" of a part of British Rail's main railway business.

The idea is to set up a separate company, Rail Gatwick Ltd, to buy and manage terminal and rolling stock for the rapidly expanding service, which is expected to carry more than seven million passengers a year by the mid-1980s.

Initial investment is expected to be about £30m for new rolling stock and a new terminal at Victoria on a raft over existing platforms. Construction of a new terminal at Gatwick is well advanced, and Sir Peter Parker, chairman of British Rail, opened the film first phase in a ceremony there yesterday.

In an exclusive interview afterwards, Sir Peter said: "The use of private capital in British Rail is welcome so long as it does not interfere in our total commitment to a national service. Where we can dis-aggregate parts of the business and attract private capital we want to do so, primarily to speed up much-needed investment in the railways, which is at present constrained by public sector borrowing limits."

The new Victoria Air Terminal and the related service to Gatwick is the best opportunity open at the moment for private sector participation in investment in a railway service. It would not increase the call on our public funds, nor would it drain away investment much needed for other parts of the railway."

If the scheme goes ahead, Gatwick Ltd trains, probably in special livery, would operate alongside existing commuter and South Coast services on shared tracks, with British Rail receiving an index-linked payment from the company for both operation and track.

The huge growth prospects of the route would guarantee investors a satisfactory return, it is believed. That would allow expanded investment in new trains, which would probably pay for themselves in 25 years.

Encouraged by the Government, British Rail is seeking private sector investment in ancillary activities such as hotel and shipping. It is also exploring sources of private cash for mainline electrification.

Direct participation by private risk capital in the railway itself is, however, a new concept. It can be set up without infringing Treasury rules it should appeal greatly to this Government as well as to Sir Peter, a dedicated believer in the mixed economy.

## Thatcher to discuss Maze with Dr FitzGerald

From Tim Jones, Belfast

Dr Garrett FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, is expected to have talks today with Mrs Margaret Thatcher in an effort to resolve the Maze prison hunger strike, which has polarised both communities in Northern Ireland and increased tension to a dangerous level.

Dr FitzGerald has intensive discussions with two members of the Irish Commission for Justice and Peace, whose efforts to solve the deadlock ended in apparent failure.

Dr FitzGerald had been in constant touch with the Commission members and it is understood that he persuaded them they still have a crucial role to play in trying to solve the impasse.

During his election campaign the dilemma of Northern Ireland plagued all major political parties in Ireland and it is of immense importance to newly-elected Dr FitzGerald to initiate positive and realistic proposals that would end the hunger strike.

The Commission, one of Ireland's most respected bodies, departed from Belfast claiming that the British Government had failed to honour undertakings to send an official into the Maze prison on Tuesday morning to confirm and clarify assurances given on reforms.

They accuse British of reneging on a deal which could have ended the protest. According to the Commission the government had "clawed back" agreed concessions. They were shocked that the Government statement they had expected and what was released by Mr Adams, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

The Commission challenged Britain to deny that it had accepted the statement of their proposals. They had expected the fresh initiatives to be put to the British Government.

Continued on back page, col 4



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# Lord Lever calls Labour schools policy disastrous

By Frances Gibb

Lord Lever of Manchester, Labour peer last night attacked the Labour Party's policy of abolishing private schools as "disastrous". Schools universally regarded as proper targets for demolition and demolition were, he said, "become targets for destruction".

He added, at the prize-giving ceremony at Manchester Grammar School, that by a "change and malign change" in Labour Party had been "invited to the notion" that the educational system of this country should be turned into a "uniform sausage machine imposed by laws".

"What started out as the noble purpose of educating working class boys to enjoy the educational opportunities of this and other famous schools could, by a bizarre and disastrous process, be turned into proposals for destroying them."

The party proposed a 10-year programme of sustained financial persecution of independent schools, leading to one system of education that was "unified and whose promise was, at the least, speculative and fraught with problems."

Lord Lever harshly criticized the party's argument that the existence of the schools sharpened class divisions. "Most of the articulate advocates of this specious argument are, in fact, themselves the product of the schools. They continue, without apparent intellectual or moral distress, to send their own children to them."

The schools had throughout the years provided the party's leadership and the leadership

## Transport troubles deter the audiences

By Martin Huckerby, Theatre Reporter

Almost West End theatregoers regard London as the entertainment capital of the world, and theatre is the most popular form of entertainment on offer. But many are put off by the expense of a night out and difficulties with transport, a survey shows.

The survey, carried out by NOP Market Research in London and much of South-east England, shows the most popular entertainment in central London is the theatre, including opera and ballet. It was preferred by 35 per cent of people.

Restaurants attracted 20 per cent, cinema 18 per cent, public houses 17 per cent, exhibitions 12 per cent, art galleries 9 per cent, classical concerts 6 per cent, and rock concerts 5 per cent.

The survey, published yesterday by the Society of West End Theatre, is only the first stage of a research programme, but it is already leading theatre managers to change their thinking about potential audiences.

MORE FOLLOWS — x — x — x

In the past, particular attention has been devoted to tourists, both from abroad and from elsewhere in Britain. But in the Greater London area there are estimated to be 1.3m people who go to the theatre, and about 100,000 who go monthly. So "London theatre for Londoners" is likely to be the watchword for the future.

Nearly 30 per cent of Londoners cited difficulties in travelling as deterrents to theatre-going, while 22 per cent were concerned at the expense of travel. The cost of travel was regarded as a greater deterrent than the actual cost of theatre seats. Difficulties of parking in the West End also put people off.

The society is already planning new schemes with British Rail and is about to start discussions with London Transport; it particularly wants better late-night trains.

The most significant recommendation for a play is that of a "crucial friend". Other influences on the choice of show are the playwright (though few modern ones are known), the actors and actresses in the cast, the play itself (mainly where revivals are concerned), and the music (where songs are already familiar).

Although the reviews of the critics were also an influence, the survey said: "Many people professed scepticism of critics' findings."

The West End Theatre Audience (The Society of West End Theatre, 10 St Martin's Court, St Martin's Lane, London, EC2 1EJ).

The BBC Symphony Orchestra has joined the increasing number of arts organizations seeking to build audiences through subscription schemes. For the coming season, the orchestra is offering concertgoers savings of up to two-fifths on season tickets at the Festival Hall.

The public can save a quarter with season tickets, and members of the BBC Symphony

## £6m paid to vaccine damaged children

By Our Health Services Correspondent

More than £6m has been paid by the Government to vaccine damage victims since the Vaccine Damage Payments Act was passed in 1979.

A total of 638 people have been awarded the lump sum payment of £10,000 laid down by the Act, 488 of whom were given a combined vaccine with an anti-whooping cough element.

Although the Government maintains that the risk of damage from whooping cough vaccine is one in 100,000, the rate at which vaccine damage payments have been made is higher than that.

100,000 children vaccinated with a whooping cough vaccine between 1962 and 1973 have been awarded compensation. About four out of every 100,000 children were given a vaccine in answer to a batch of parliamentary questions from Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent, South. In his replies Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Health, pointed out that figures for vaccine damage payments, which involved a retrospective judgment based on the balance of probabilities, could not be taken to give an accurate assessment of the risks of permanent damage.



Remains of the burnt-out footbridge spanning Clapham Junction station in London yesterday. Services through the station are expected to be almost back to normal today after a fire on Wednesday caused severe delays. Four lines put out of action were reopened yesterday with near-normal services during the evening.

## St Paul's boys sweep to chess victory

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

In the finals of The Sunday Times national schools chess tournament, which were played yesterday at St Paul's Hotel, in Caxton Street, Westminster, London, St Paul's swept to a convincing victory over Watford Boys' Grammar School by 44 to 11.

With an average age of 15, the St Paul's team was one of the youngest to win the British schools championship.

Their adversaries, Watford Boys' Grammar School, are also a most promising side of young players, with an average age of 15. They are

runners-up for the second year in succession.

The former title holders, King Edward VI School, Southampton, played Manchester Grammar School for the third and fourth places, and in this match Manchester Grammar were almost as strong victors as St Paul's, winning by 4-2.

Detailed results in Match 1: Watford Boys' Grammar v St Paul's, with Watford GS names first: Simon Triggs 1, Julian Hodgson 1, Jonathan Sachs 0, Daniel Rosen 1, Ian Thomas 1, Kenny Shovel 1, Andrew Clarke 1, Adam Ismail 1; David Buchanan 0, Nicholas

von Schlippe 1; Glen Streeter 0, Michael Arundale 1.

Match 2: Manchester Grammar School v King Edward VI School, with Manchester names first: Stuart Niman 1, Steven Bell 0; Martyn Goodger 1, Philip Stevenson 0; Tim Fife 0, Andrew Kluch 1; Mark Trevelyn 0, James Forder 1; Saul Richman 1, Mark Buchan 0; Duncan Clements 1, Ravi Shahani 0.

From now on the event will be sponsored by The Times and arrangements are already in progress for next season's tournament which will be a large competition, with about a thousand teams taking part.

## Methodist dispute over energy

From Our Correspondent, Norwich

The Methodist conference in Norwich last night agreed to circulate among Britain's two million Methodists a report entitled *Shaping Tomorrow*.

The report is in favour of nuclear energy. It tackles the relationship between new technology and the Christian faith.

The section of the report favouring nuclear energy was strongly criticized by the Rev David Haslam, of London.

He pointed out that, of 43 scientists, technologists, and engineers who drew up the report, 15 worked for either the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority or British Nuclear Fuels.

The conference rejected his plea that reports challenging the use of nuclear energy should be circulated.

## Error halts butter price increase

By Hugh Clayton

An Order to raise the legal ceiling on butter prices has been hastily withdrawn by the Government after complaints from some interested parties that they were not consulted.

The Department of Trade said yesterday that the mistake had occurred because officials had used the wrong list of organizations.

The department would say no more about the error that led it to cancel the Order after it had been laid before Parliament on Tuesday. It had decided after consulting what it thought were the relevant interested parties to raise the ceiling by 8p for 250 grams from July 20.

It would not say yesterday how long the process would be delayed, but it is likely to be several weeks. The list used, although it was headed Butter

## Sick pay statement 'misleading'

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Ministers were accused last night of misleading the Commons and the country by saying £400m would be saved by switching responsibility for sickness benefits from the state to the employer.

Mr Norman Buchan, opposition spokesman on social security, said the Government's consultative document estimated the saving at £25m.

The £400m figure applies to the estimated saving from not paying out sickness benefits during the first eight weeks. But the Government intends to give £660m in compensation to employers for taking on the responsibility, and the net saving to the public spending borrowing requirement is estimated at £25m.

## Kaufman pledges local cash reforms

By Our Local Government Correspondent, Eastbourne

A radical reform of the structure and finance of local government should be a priority for the next Labour Government, Mr Gerald Kaufman, opposition spokesman on the environment, said.

Addressing the annual conference of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives, he said that a Labour working party was preparing a detailed report on the future of local government and he hoped it would include his proposals.

Among them is the abandonment of the two-tier system of counties and districts, their replacement by single all-purpose authorities, and the substitution of the local income tax for the domestic rates.

Explaining that the Labour Party believed the independence of local government was a precious protection against too much centralisation, Mr Kaufman said the Party thought that the way the Government was imposing controls on local authorities was intolerable.

Local government was being subjected to a "disgraceful" attack by the Government which was "bombarding" authorities with targets and penalties.

Referring to the block grant system, he said: "It is totally intolerable for the Government to claim that local government is free and then, in areas where the Government says it is free, to proceed to regulate and penalize in the most unacceptable way. I hope to be able to permit the Labour Party to replace the block grant legislation."

He said that Labour's main legislation on local government must come early in the life of the Parliament and he hoped that local authorities would participate in the change rather than simply be the objects of it.

He described the two-tier system as a recipe for conflict, leading authorities to a policy of "frontier protection" that takes priority over the propagation and implementation of policies.

Mr Kaufman recommended the introduction of local income tax instead of domestic rates, which would overcome the criticism of the system that it enabled some wage earners to escape payment for local services.

Government grant would still be necessary, but a local authority should be given freedom on expenditure as long as it did not drag any more grant along with it. "Local government, if it is given greater freedom, must take the responsibility for its own decisions by levying the required tax rate and justifying it to the electors."

If local government is not to become an agent of central government, it must not become a parasite of central government either."

Mr Kaufman said his wish was to "liberate local government and suggested that councils should be allowed to become resource creators."

## The hunger strike

### Five 'just' demands and the case against

From Tim Jones, Belfast

After the apparent failure of an initiative by the Irish Commission for Justice and Peace to solve the Maze prison hunger strike, republican prisoners in the H-blocks smuggled out a document saying that the statement by Mr Humphrey Atkins, secretary of State for Northern Ireland, in response to their demands "at face value amounts to nothing".

Since the start of the hunger strike, the prisoners, five of whom have died, have been content in making five demands which they claim are just and reasonable. The Government, while showing a willingness to make the regime more liberal, is refused to concede the demands, saying that would be tantamount to giving them political status.

The five demands are free association with other "political prisoners", the right to wear their own clothes, the right to manage their own recreation, education, and work, the right to receive one visit, one letter and one parcel a week, and the right to full remission of sentences.

In those demands the Government's attitude as expressed Mr Atkins is:

Free Association: prisoners who give up their protest would get the same association as non-protesting prisoners now get, that is, three hours each evening, all their weekends, plus payment for exercise, physical education, games, and meals. There is little immediate scope for expansion.

Clothes: During association prisoners would have the privilege of wearing their own clothes. At all other times they would wear civilian-type clothing of a non-uniform kind. The possibility of further developments is not ruled out.

Work: All prisoners are in practice, as well as in principle, liable for domestic tasks inside and outside the wing, for example, for orderly duties and in the laundries and kitchens. No one will be excluded as of right from the liability to work in prison workshops.

Prison clothes: Any prisoner who abides by the rules is allowed eight letters, four visits, and four parcels a month. Those giving up their protest would get that straight away. This is more than the hunger-strikers have been asked for.

Remission: Fifty per cent

remission is awarded for good behaviour. It is forfeited by those who break prison rules by protesting. In practice, prisoners who give up their protest have regained up to one fifth of lost remission.

The attitude of the prisoners to their demands is, in their words:

Free Association: It is misleading to quote figures of a hundred prisoners presumably associating together. We believe there should be wing visits (each wing is built to accommodate 25 prisoners), but we do not envisage ourselves (although Mr Atkins does) running around the block, as we please in large numbers. Free association means that there would be freedom of movement within the wings. Supervision need not be restricted.

Clothes: Prison clothes are prison clothes. It is illusory to minimize the wearing of prison clothes to half the week. The women in Armagh wear their own clothes, and there is no objective reason why all prisoners should not be allowed to wear their own clothes.

Work: What the Government recognizes as prison work, we do not. Therefore, with good will, "work" and the achieving of a compatible arrangement should be achieved without loss of principle. Besides self-education, which would be the main prop in any agreement, we are prepared to maintain our cells and wings blocks and engage in any activity we define as self-maintenance.

Parcels and letters: If we accept that toiletries and, to a lesser extent, reading material, are essential, then the weekly parcel amounts to 4lb of fruit. That speaks for itself.

Remission: Lost remission is a result of the protest and is not connected with the cause of it. As the Government says, the machinery exists to reclaim it, yet for some reason the Government is being ambiguous on the matter. What constitutes a "subsequent good behaviour period?"

According to the prisoners, their interpretation of their demands "can, and must, provide the basis for a just, principled, and practical solution for all sides."

Mr Atkins says there is scope for further development, but not under duress. "The only key to advance is for them to end the strike."

## PAY-LATER PLAN FOR ITV FIRMS

By Kenneth Gosling

Deferred payment method helping the independent television companies to pay for fourth television channel is expected to be ratified by Independent Broadcasters before the end of the month.

The aim, in response to representations from the companies, is to give them a breathing space before the channel is on the air in November 1982. The authority is to issue a full statement about all aspects of financial channel.

The cost of setting up the channel is estimated at £90m. An example of the new pay-later plan is that Thames Television, whose subscription £11.1m, due to be paid next year, would pay about half amount and have the rest paid over five years to cover interest on the loan the company will have to raise to the balance.

## Biffen's seven conditions for 'Observer' takeover

These are the conditions Mr Biffen attached yesterday to the takeover of The Observer:

1. The Observer Limited shall have five independent directors; but not more than five.
2. No person shall be appointed to or removed from the office of independent director without the approval of the majority of the independent directors at the time of the appointment or removal.
3. The Editor of The Observer shall not be appointed or dismissed without the approval of the majority of the independent directors of The Observer Limited at the time of the proposed appointment or dismissal.
4. Subject only to any properly determined budget, the editor of The Observer shall retain control over the appointment, disposition and dismissal of journalists on The Observer, and of all content of the newspaper, except that the editor's rights may be limited to the right to refuse to publish any advertisement and to provide

## CHANGE OF VENUE PLEA FOR TRIAL

John Smith, accused of murdering a circuit judge, intends to deny the charge. Mr Barington Black, his defence counsel, told magistrates at Preston, Lancashire, yesterday.

Mr Smith, aged 31, would claim diminished responsibility, and would ask for a switch of trial venue, he said. Mr Smith, originally from Burnley, is charged with murdering Judge William Openshaw, aged 68, at his home at Broughton in May.

Mr Smith was committed in custody to Preston Crown Court on the application of Mr John Bates, for the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Mr Black told magistrates that the defence felt the case should not be tried at Preston, where Judge Openshaw sat, or anywhere on the northern circuit. Mr Smith would be pleading not guilty to murder, and when the pretrial review took place the defence of diminished responsibility would be put forward and the location of the trial determined.

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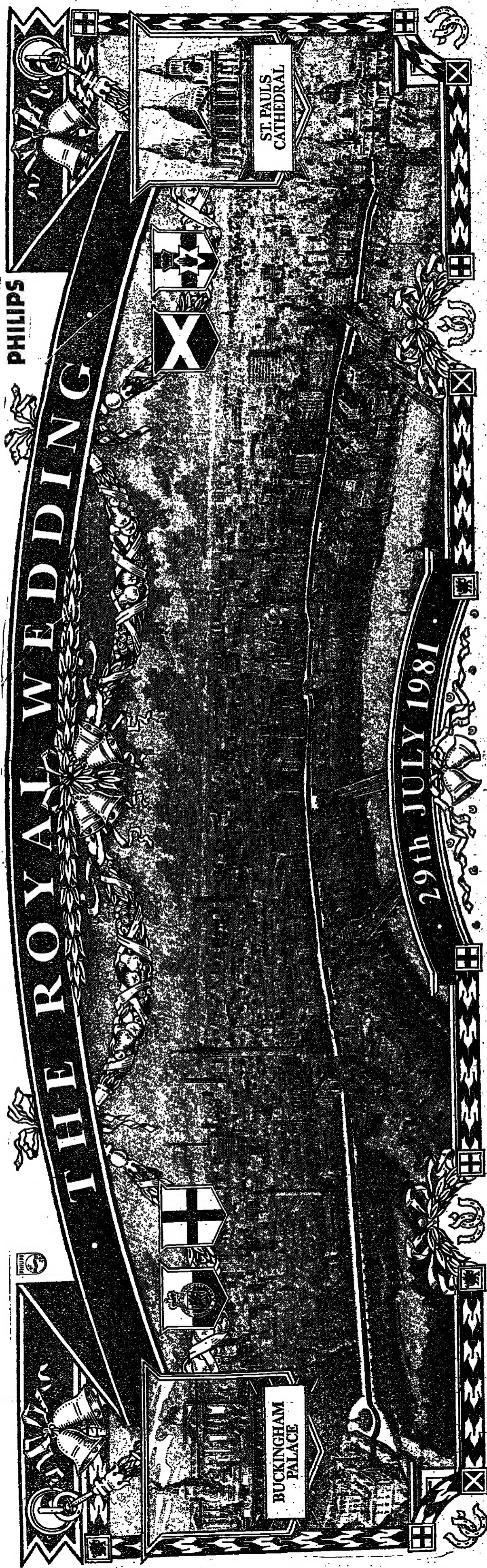
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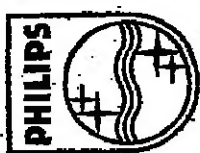
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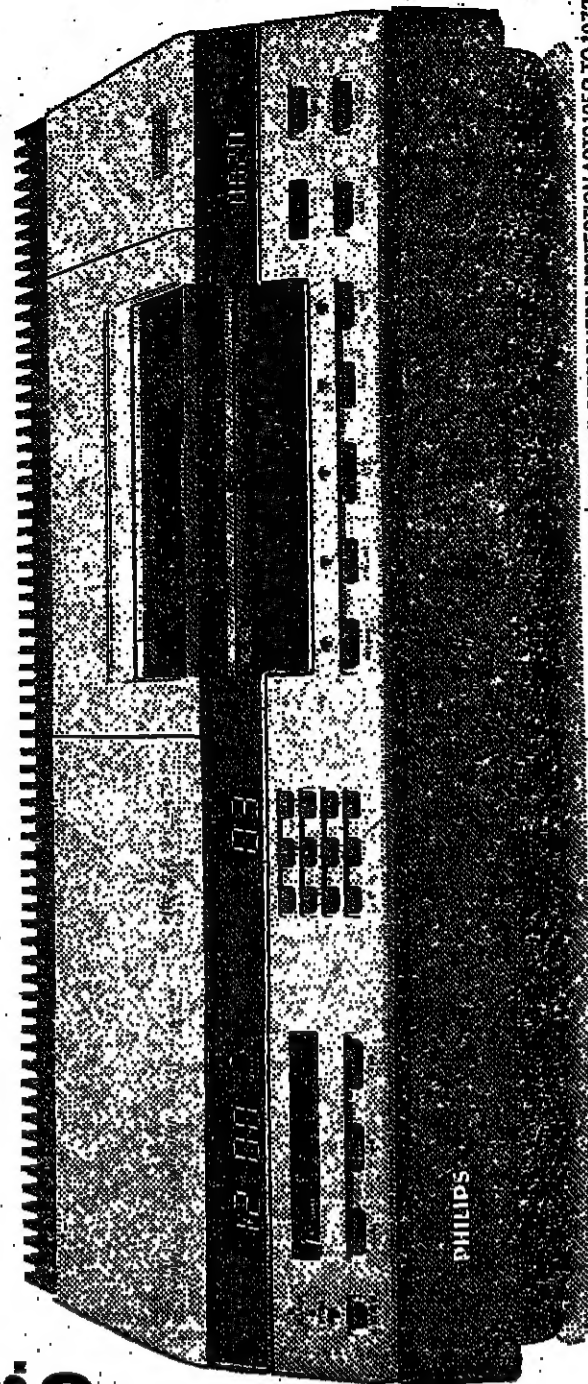
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# US dismayed by European anti-nuclear stand

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, July 9

The tough line which the United States is adopting towards the Soviet Union is worrying European leaders as the Ottawa summit draws near. They are afraid that the mood of anti-Sovietism in Washington, together with the huge planned increase in American defence spending will undermine attempts to open a new round of talks on limiting medium-range missiles in Europe.

On the American side there is dismay that some European leaders are not prepared to accept assurances made by Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and other senior officials that the United States will fulfil its commitment to Nato to enter arms limitation talks with the Soviet Union by the end of this year.

One senior State Department official said a rise in neutralism, pacifism and anti-nuclearism in Europe would undermine America's position in future arms talks with the Soviet Union.

On interest rates the Europeans are unlikely to gain any immediate relief. The Americans contend that high interest rates are the consequence of past economic policies and that rates will start to come down only when the economic recovery programme begins to work.

This is a line of argument that Mrs Margaret Thatcher will find easier to accept than some other European leaders.

On Theatre nuclear forces and relations with the Soviet Union, the Americans feel their position is being almost deliberately misunderstood. They point out that it was the Europeans who originally wanted the Pershing and cruise missiles in Europe in order to counter the threat posed by the Soviet SS20s. Yet some European leaders now give the impression that these weapons are being forced on them by an American administration which seems bent on stirring up East-West tension.

The State Department official said that the Administration was determined to maintain its lines of communication with the Soviet Union. As evidence of this he pointed out that Mr Haig had several meetings with Mr Anatoly Dobrynin, the Soviet Ambassador, and that Mr Lawrence Eagleburger, Assistant Secretary of State for

European and Soviet affairs, had been in regular contact with Soviet Embassy officials. "What we are trying to do is to underline to the Russians that there is a new administration here in Washington," the official said. "The game has changed and we are no longer prepared to negotiate on specific issues in a vacuum. There has to be a link between our relations with them and their actions in other parts of the world."

"But even though linkage is a reality, we are still prepared to talk about Theatre nuclear forces while Soviet troops remain in Afghanistan."

Despite the differences which are developing between the United States and its allies, the Reagan Administration seems determined to work closely with European leaders on East-West issues.

In particular officials have made it clear that all decisions on Theatre nuclear forces and arms limitation will be taken only after close consultation with a special consultative group comprising the United States and its Nato partners.

Sweden told the United Nations Disarmament Committee today that the intensified arms race of the super-powers had created a popular resistance movement which was gaining ground in Western Europe. (Alan McGregor writes from Geneva.)

Mrs Inga Thorsson, the Swedish delegate, said: "For more and more people the arms race has become a matter of survival."

With about 80 per cent of the super-powers' existing arsenals being overkill capacity such dimensions as to defy rational understanding. The accumulation of weapons manifestly constituted much more of a threat to a protection to the future of mankind."

The new wave of disarmament means the world's peoples are coming to see security and disarmament, not an accumulation of more weapons. To dismiss this movement as a new wave of neutralism is a serious political and ideological mistake."

The Swedish delegate also criticized the super-powers for their apparent apathy

## Spadolini clears his first hurdle in Italian Senate

From John Earle, Rome, July 9

The Senate today approved by 182 to 124 votes the programme of Senator Giovanni Spadolini's five-party coalition, the first Italian Government for 35 years not to be headed by a Christian Democrat. Debate now moves to the Chamber of Deputies, which is expected to vote its confidence on Saturday.

Senator Spadolini, a Republican, is basing his programme on measures to face what he calls the four emergencies—moral, civil, economic, and the threatening international outlook. A series of events since the debate opened in the Senate has underlined the immediacy of the first three of these.

In the moral emergency, the repercussions of the affair of the P2 masonic group, classed by the Government as a secret organization, led last night to the resignation of Admiral Giovanni Torrisi as Chief of Defence Staff.

The armed forces have been temporarily decapitated until a successor to Torrisi's name is on the P2 list, as are those of a number of other generals and admirals, who have been placed on extended leave.

## New wave of strikes raises tension in Poland

Warsaw, July 9.—Employees of the Polish state airline Lot struck for four hours today, disrupting domestic and international flights. Later they threatened an indefinite strike after the Government refused to accept their nominee for the post of general manager.

Bus and tramway drivers also struck for two hours in Bydgoszcz on the second day of a new wave of labour unrest which raised the political temperature before the emergency Communist Party congress scheduled for next week.

The last pre-congress plenum of the party's outgoing Central Committee opens in Warsaw tomorrow.

All domestic flights were cancelled during the stoppage and Lot had to delay the arrival and departure of seven international flights. East German and Soviet flights were also postponed and passengers travelling on Yugoslav and Swiss airlines had to carry their own baggage.

The Government responded to the strike by installing its candidate, Brigadier-General Jozef Kowalski, head of an Air Force training college in Debica, near Warsaw, as general manager of Lot. In an official statement, Mr Mieczyslaw Zajfryd, the Transport Minister, said he found the situation "intolerable".

Officials of the Solidarity trade union who waited at the airport through the night, said the marshals had seized a man with a poison gas container and handed him over to the police. No other incidents were reported, and the strike ended

on schedule at midday with some 1,500 passengers and Lot staff jointly singing the national anthem in the departure hall. The public transport stoppage in Bydgoszcz was staged to force the authorities to dismiss the city transport director, Mr Andrzej Antosiak, union officials said. The local Solidarity branch accused him of living beyond his means but the newspaper *Trybuna Ludu* said today that the accusations were groundless.

Today's token stoppages came after a one-hour strike yesterday in the Baltic ports by dockers who are demanding a better deal on pay and conditions and have also threatened an indefinite walk-out.

The Government said today that it hoped to reach agreement with the dockers by the end of the month.

The Warsaw branch of Solidarity today leaked details of what it said were official findings about the dealings of Mr Edward Gierek, the former party leader.

The Supreme Court today ordered the rearrest of three members of the anti-communist Confederation of Independent Poland, Mr Leszek Moczulski, its leader, and two of his aides, Mr Roman Sieremietiew and Mr Tadeusz Ciesielski, who are being tried on charges of plotting the violent overthrow of the Communist system.

Poland's new Roman Catholic Primate Archbishop, Jozef Glemp, said today the Church would try to help solve social conflicts. He said he would not hesitate to intervene personally to preserve social peace.



"Damned Communists!"

## French Socialists buoyant

### Scope of changes shakes right

The new French Socialist Government today confidently put its programme to the test of a parliamentary vote and secured its approval in the National Assembly by 302 votes to 147.

The programme, announced in the course of a two-hour speech yesterday by M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, includes the need for 17 new laws or reforms to be passed through Parliament in the months to come. Given its huge majority in the National Assembly and the relative prosperity of the country, there is every chance that this whole programme will go through.

In itself the programme contains no surprises and shows that so far the Socialist Party intends, as its leaders have frequently emphasized, to carry out all its promises "no more and no less".

### Bank plans 'economic nonsense'

Thus the reaction from M Francois Ceyrac, the leader of the French employers' federation (CNPF) to the intention to nationalise the banks and 11 industrial groups was confined to a predictable comment. "It makes economic nonsense," he said.

The communist CGT union found no such difficulty. "Let's begin with that and do it well," M Henri Krasucki, the spokesman, said. The socialist CPD union spokesman, M Maurice, said the political will to play a full role in solving the great problems facing the country.

On the union side only the CGC, which represents the middle management classes, had reservations about the programme, with real criticism coming essentially from the ranks of the much depleted parties of the right.

Leading the attack for the new Opposition in the National Assembly today M Michel Bernier, the Gaullist member for the Savoie, said the programme would lead inevitably to a collectivist society in which the individual became at once assisted, tied up and controlled by the state.

### Objectives are spelt out

Doctrinal obstinacy, he said, was behind the nationalization programme, while the new taxation levels would mean that overall the French would end up winning half the time for the state.

There was, of course, no such criticism from the Communists. Their parliamentary group leader, M Andre Lajoinie, promised party support for the Socialist programme. Nationalization would create the basis for secure employment and a new growth, he said, adding that the Communists would have preferred the nationalization net to have been cast somewhat wider.

Sure of winning the vote in Parliament, government ministers spent the day explaining parts of the new programme. M Michel Rocard, Minister for Economic Planning, spelt out the six objectives of his first two-year plan, due to start next year. These were: to increase the number of jobs; to guaran-

tee the efficiency of social protection, to help businesses to face up to foreign competition; to re-launch the research effort; to improve everyday work and free time conditions and better the environment; and to assess the economic consequences of reforms such as the reduction of working time.

M Robert Badinter, the Minister of Justice, promised a new, freer, more humane and more efficient justice, when he met the press for the first time today. A long-time campaigner against the death penalty, he now has charge of the Justice Ministry at a time when the government programme includes a commitment to do away with the guillotine.

M Badinter has also to prepare legislation to do away with military tribunals and the Court of State Security, to repeal and replace the last Government's disliked "security and liberty" law, and to relax restrictions on homosexuals.

He is also to study the controversial use of high security wings in prisons, which has caused a number of prison riots in the past. A better identity scheme for those who have suffered from criminal injury

is also being worked out. Legal aid is to be improved.

The scope of the proposed changes is seen by commentators to be on the widest possible scale. *Le Figaro*, which is now leading the Opposition, comments in a front-page leading article that the Socialist will be "to break—at once and if possible for ever—the structures of our society".

*Le Matin*, the leading socialist paper, said that public opinion could not be disappointed and the promises made would be kept.

One change has already occurred in the National Assembly which has shocked more conservative members. For the first time ever a deputy dared take his seat in the Palais Bourbon without wearing a necktie. "It was hot and I never wear a tie anyway," M Umberto Battisti, Socialist member for Marseilles in the Nord, explained.

The National Assembly is itself taking steps to ensure the comfort of its larger members in future. Ninety new wide seats are to be installed for the more corpulent deputies, discreetly scattered in the "middle rows" and equally divided between left and right.

### TIMETABLE OF SOCIALIST REFORM

Project	Purpose	Time
Supplementary Budget	Tax on high incomes and windfall profits of oil companies for 65,000 new state jobs.	July 15-16
Court of State Security closure	Bringing all offences under common law, apart from spying.	By the end of July
Decentralization	Administrative structural reform giving more power to regions.	During current session
Early retirement	Retirement rights from the age of 60.	"In the next few weeks"
Repeal of "Savage" law	Widening the membership of university councils.	"Soon"
Bank nationalization	Bringing all credit under state control.	"From the autumn"
Industrial nationalization	Nationalization of 11 industrial groups.	"During the autumn session"
Financial law	Defining 1982 Budget, including creation of tax on large fortunes (but not including tax on property and inheritance, as well as farms and factories).	During the autumn
Two-year plan	Economic infrastructure schedule for 1982-3 (to be followed by five-year plan from 1984).	In December
Broadcasting reform	New statute ensuring independence of radio and television from state control, allowing licensed local radio.	"In the months to come"
Research programme	Defining financial and priority research for the future, integrating with the five-year plan.	Spring, 1982
Legal Reform	Repealing military courts, equalizing law, abolition of "law of the death penalty, reform of Superior Council of the Magistrature.	No time scale but likely next year
Tenant protection	New legislation to improve status of tenants.	No time scale but likely next year
Work control	Measures to stop "moonlighting" and help temporary workers.	No time scale but likely next year
Social innovation	Law aimed at making the social sector a basis for improving social conditions.	During next year
Fiscal reform	Making taxation equally effective for work and leisure, plus incentives for saving, harmonization of scales for self-employed and salaried employees. Death duty control.	Subject to an in-depth and wide-ranging study
Ailing industries	Laws to protect lame duck companies, from specialists.	No time scale
Social security	Balancing the social security budget after an in-depth debate on needs.	Regular annual debate
Immigration control	Regulating intake of immigrants in keeping with bilateral arrangements.	No time scale
Health service	Creation of nationwide medical centres but protection assured for private sector.	No time scale
Education	Creation of a national unified system.	After full consultation with all interested parties

## Washington allows South America loans

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington, July 9

The Reagan Administration has confirmed it will no longer abstain or vote against loans from international development banks to four South American countries controlled by right-wing regimes—Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay.

The decision reverses a ruling introduced by the Carter Administration in 1977 to oppose such loans in an attempt to put pressure on the Reagan Administration to say that the 1977 human rights legislation did not require the United States to oppose loans to these countries. The Administration

maintained that there had been "significant improvements in the human rights situation".

The decision means that during this month alone the Reagan Administration will vote to grant \$483.4m (£254m) in loans from the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank to the four countries, two-thirds of the total to Argentina.

In a letter to Congress the Reagan Administration said that the 1977 human rights legislation did not require the United States to oppose loans to these countries. The Administration

# 10,405 votes give poll victory to Begin

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, July 9

The release of Israel's official election results today confirmed an earlier claim by Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, that with the support of the three religious parties, his ruling right-wing Likud bloc will be able to form a new coalition with 61 seats in the 120-member Knesset.

According to the Central Elections Committee, only 10,405 votes separated the Likud from Labour, enough to give the Government the edge with 48 seats to Labour's 47. The turnout was 78 per cent.

Completion of the result has been delayed by the laborious method of vote counting used in Israel, and by the Jewish Sabbath which held up the process for 24 hours. But this has not halted the intense political bargaining which Mr Begin is confident has already guaranteed him sufficient support to remain in power.

Now that the total votes and seat allocations have been officially approved, President Yitzhak Navon is free to begin the process of consultations with leaders of all the factions from Labour, enough to give the Government the edge with 48 seats to Labour's 47. The turnout was 78 per cent.

There seems no doubt that after the talks have taken place next week the President will call on Mr Begin to form the next Government. If the Prime Minister does not succeed in the first 21-day period allotted to him, he is then given a further length of time before the task is given to the leader of another party.

All three religious parties, Agudat Israel, the National Religious Party (NRP) and Tami, have already declared a strong preference for supporting a new right-wing coalition, rather than helping Mr Shimon Peres, leader of the opposition Labour Party to establish a left-wing administration.

Hectic political horse trading is now taking place daily at a series of meetings in which each of the three parties is laying down its demands, both in terms of government posts and the religious-inspired legislation that is the traditional price paid for voting support.

It has already become clear that the influence of Orthodox Jews is going to increase considerably in many spheres of Israeli life, as well as causing concern to the secular majority of the population, the fact is Reform Jewish leaders.

The rabbi representing these two strands of Judaism today voiced anger at a suggestion that the next Government will rush through legislation to prevent anyone converted to Reform or conservative rabbinism abroad being recognized as Jews with the right of return to Israel.

As soon as President Navon has formally requested Mr Begin to form a Cabinet, the infighting between the various coalition elements over the distribution of seats is expected to begin in earnest.

Already the NRP has issued a private ultimatum that it will not support a coalition unless it retains its traditional hold over the Religious Affairs Ministry. Another point of contention is Mr Begin's determination to appoint the controversial former general, Mr Ariel Sharon, to the post of Defence Minister.

Although government sources believe that the Prime Minister has already overcome political opposition to the move, there are reports that the appointment would be strongly resisted by many senior officers in the Army, Navy and Air Force.

Apart from objections to his ultra-bawls political views, there is also understood to be resentment at his declared intention of introducing drastic cuts in the defence budget.

Clashes between Mr Philip Habib, the United States envoy, met President Elias Sarkis of Lebanon, to discuss developments in Lebanon and in the Arab world, Beirut radio said (UPI).

Mr Habib refused to comment on the substance of the one hour and 45 minutes of talks.

Land like Captain Quan, or even back home to the remote parts of Vietnam.

The shortage of medicines referred to at the press conference is either the cause or the effect of a high incidence of disease, particularly malaria, among the troops.

The Khmer Rouge army at Pol Pot is also operating more effectively as the months go by, widening its area of operations from its headquarters on the Thai border.

Its strength has gone up from 20,000 to an estimated 30,000 men, few analysts believe it capable of driving the 200,000 Vietnamese troops out of Cambodia. Many Vietnamese as a liberating force Cambodians still regard the army.

On the other hand the Khmer Rouge army is thought to be strong enough to pin down the Vietnamese, who need reinforcements. Although Vietnam has more than a million men under arms, the country is still short of trained troops because of its commitments.

Reinforcement would have to come either from untrained units in Vietnam itself, or from the 25 to 30 divisions, embodying the cream of the Vietnamese army, who are now on the Cambodian frontier.

Any thinning down of the frontier, however, would be interpreted by the Chinese as a sign of weakness and could encourage a second Chinese incursion.

The Vietnamese have five divisions incorporating 50,000 men in Laos. So short are they now of trained personnel that a division has had to be drawn from Cambodia to deal with the Chinese. But the Central Highlands of Vietnam itself.

## Plagiarism suit filed over Steven Spielberg film

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, July 9

The Kuhn film treatment, which he allegedly enlarged to a 900-page manuscript by 1979, was apparently set in the 1980s, and pitted the United States against a European confederation in a race to discover the Ark, believed to be a source of untold power to its possessor.

In Mr Kuhn's story, it is said, Arabs and Israelis joined forces to protect Jerusalem against the confederation, whose armies were destroyed by the Ark. The Lucas film, released by Paramount, is a race to discover the Ark, believed to be a source of untold power to its possessor.

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## SOCIALIST PAPER TO CLOSE

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, July 9

While the French Socialist Party seems to go from strength to strength, *Combat Socialiste*, the daily newspaper it founded five months ago, has proved a financial failure. The executive committee of the party has therefore decided to close it.

According to M Bertrand Delanoë, the party spokesman, the paper is running at a loss and its continued publication would only be possible if the Socialist Party paid all its bills.

The party just does not have the means, even at the present time, to finance the journal completely," he said.

The tabloid paper employed 26 journalists and their union has protested vehemently against the fact that the Socialist Party launched it "without having seriously studied the question of finance".

The party is to try to find new jobs for the 63 staff members and has agreed to pay off all its debts.

When it was launched with backing of 15m francs (£1.3m) in February it was hoped to get 20,000 subscriptions plus 10,000 kiosk sales, but its subscriptions at this high point of French socialism still do not exceed 16,500.



## Rajai clear favourite for Iran presidency

Tehran, July 9.—Mr. Muhammad Ali Rajai, a former teacher who allied himself with Iran's hard-line Islamic clergy, today became the favourite to replace Mr. Abolhasan Bani-Sadr as the country's president. Mr. Rajai, aged 48, was named the candidate of the ruling Islamic Republican Party (IRP) in the election on July 24 and also won the endorsement of several other revolutionary and religious groups.

Mr. Rajai has not yet officially declared his candidacy but, two days after Mr. Bani-Sadr was dismissed as president on June 22 for political incompetence, he said publicly: "If the people wish it, I will take this post."

Observers here suggested that since Mr. Rajai was such a strong candidate, the suspense in the vote would be a measure of the support the Islamic regime has in its fight against backers of Mr. Bani-Sadr and other opponents.

Mr. Rajai's election would be somewhat ironic, since he would assume the presidency after working vigorously to strip away its powers since becoming Prime Minister last August.

Although not a member of the IRP, he supported its moves to consolidate authority in Parliament, the Majlis, and place the President "under surveillance."

Mr. Rajai, praised by Ayatollah Khomeini for having "more wisdom than knowledge," was chosen Prime Minister as a compromise between the Islamic fundamentalists and Mr. Bani-Sadr. He joined the Iranian Air Force at 16, later became a teacher and joined the liberation movement led by Mr. Mohd. Bazargan, who was to head the first secular government after the fall of the Shah in 1979.

Mr. Rajai was arrested several times by the Shah's secret police, Savak, and spent two years in prison. He became Education Minister under Mr. Bazargan and immediately set about purging the department of anti-Islamic elements. He was elected to the Majlis in March 1980, joining a group of legislators that allied itself with the IRP headed by Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti, who was killed in a bomb attack last month.

He quickly won a reputation as a model "maktabi," or pious Iranian devoted completely to the principles of Ayatollah Khomeini.

Although he was chosen Prime Minister on August 11 last year, he was unable to form a cabinet because of his constant bickering with Mr. Bani-Sadr, who opposed his efforts to take over the Foreign Ministry. The Majlis finally gave Mr. Rajai the portfolio on an interim basis.

Six clerical members are also candidates for the presidency, the Interior Ministry said, as well as one IRP member, Parliament's vice-chairman, Mr. Ali Akbar Fardesh, who said nothing as an individual without party backing.

Mr. Bazargan, who now heads

the Movement for the Liberation of Iran, has made it known that he will not make an attempt to gain the post.

The names of the candidates approved by the country's Constitutional Council will be made public next Wednesday when the nine-day official election campaign begins.

Officials are hoping for a turnout much greater than in last month's partial legislative elections, which were marked by a high rate of abstentions.

Meanwhile, Ayatollah Khomeini continued his campaign against opponents of the Islamic regime by warning Iran's military men that they must denounce "corrupt elements" infiltrating the armed forces.

"In the same way that the people are committed to denouncing plotters and collaborating with security forces, the military must point out corrupt elements to their commanders and the commanders must deliver them to the courts," he said in a message broadcast by Tehran radio.

It was reported in Tehran that five left-wing opponents of the regime were executed today at Nur and at Behshahr in the north of the country.

Pers news agency said that three members of the Marxist "People's Mujahadeen," aged from 19 to 27, were shot at Behshahr for "armed resistance against the Islamic Republic."

Meanwhile the newspaper *Azadegan* reported that five mujahadeen had been arrested in southern Iran and a further 10 in the capital—AFP.

## Muldoon defends rugby tour stand

From W. P. Reeves  
Wellington, July 9

Mr. Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, has told Commonwealth critics of his Government's policy on sporting contacts with South Africa that New Zealand "will not be labelled an international pariah simply because we uphold the principle of freedom of movement, freedom from interference for our sportsmen and sporting bodies."

His statement is contained in correspondence released today, between the Prime Minister and seven African and Caribbean countries—Antigua, Lesotho, Jamaica, Tanzania, Nigeria, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The material, all of it dated last month, includes a statement conveyed to Commonwealth governments by New Zealand's Foreign Minister, Mr. Geoffrey Palmer, stating that the tour of New Zealand by a South African rugby team, due to begin this month, would constitute a "flagrant violation of the United Nations' declaration against apartheid in sport and a reckless breach of the Gleneagles agreement to both of which New Zealand subscribed."

Mr. Muldoon denied that his government had breached the agreement. He put forward the idea of a trade embargo against South Africa in letters to Mr. Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, and Dr. Julius Nyerere, the Tanzanian President.

To Mr. Mugabe he wrote: "If the Commonwealth decided to impose a trade embargo my government could and would comply, albeit reluctantly."

To President Nyerere he wrote: "I believe a trade boycott would have great impact but so far no international body has yet been able to agree on implementing such policy."

Mr. Muldoon said today: "I thought I should raise this question because I think Africans particularly are taking what is for them the easy way out by going in the direction of sports with South Africa."

He said that the relationship between South Africa and African states was large, he said.

Tomorrow the Rugby Union Council will give what will probably be the final word on the idea of representations to withdraw its invitation to the Springboks.

Port Moresby: Sir Julius Chan, the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, announced today that he was going ahead with a two-day official visit to New Zealand next week, despite the impending Springboks tour (Agence France-Presse reports).

Sir Julius said he would have ample opportunity to reiterate his concerns and to put out his views on the Springboks tour as having serious implications for the world does not stop because of bilateral trade was the more important aspect of his visit, he said, but he reiterated the Government's "strong opposition" to the tour.

Papua New Guinea would not boycott the Brisbane games, because the world does not stop because of a football team.

## Pentagon decides to sell 54 tanks to Tunisia

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, July 9

As part of its policy of assisting countries which stand up to Libya, the Pentagon has announced that it intends to sell 54 M50 A3 tanks to Tunisia.

A Pentagon spokesman said today the proposed sale was designed to help Tunisia defend itself against the Libyan thrust to the east, he said, been amply demonstrated by the Libyan-backed dissident attack on the Tunisian city of Gafsa in January last year.

The sale of the tanks would be the largest arms deal the United States has concluded with Tunisia for several years. However, Pentagon sources emphasized, that the deal, which still has to be approved by Congress, would not upset the military balance in the region.

Tunisia has about 60 ageing French AMX and ageing M41 tanks, compared with about 2,400 medium Soviet-built tanks possessed by Libya.

Testifying before the Senate foreign relations committee yesterday, Mr. Chester Crocker, the Assistant Secretary of State for African affairs, said that while it was up to African countries themselves to stand firm against Libyan subversion,

## Paris talks revive friendship

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, July 9

Mr. Félix Houphouët-Boigny, the President of the Ivory Coast, who is often described as the President of the Sahel, today became the first African head of state to be received at the Elysée Palace by President Mitterrand.

The meeting was very friendly, as befits two men who have known one another well for 30 years.

Today's meeting also marked the injection of more warmth into Franco-Ivorian relations, which had been cool since President Giscard d'Estaing's visit to Abidjan in 1978.

The Ivorian head of state had repeatedly expressed concern about the failure of the French Government to contain Libyan subversion in Chad and other parts of central Africa.

When Mr. Mitterrand was elected President, he sent him a letter of warm congratulations, which expressed the hope that "the sense of justice which you have always shown will lead France to support the just demands of African countries in their struggle against exploitation and for a just remuneration for their labour."

Mr. Houphouët-Boigny declared as he left the Elysée Palace that he was very happy and comforted by his talks with President Mitterrand.

Mr. Mitterrand, on his side, insisted that he was anxious, for reasons of their old friendship, that Mr. Houphouët-Boigny should be the first African head of state to be received in Paris.

Mr. Houphouët-Boigny, who has been in France for more than three hours, he said, "and had a lot to say about the future of our two countries, of Africa and Europe, and of peace in the world."

One thing the two presidents discussed today was the financial situation of the Ivory Coast, which is the world's largest producer of cocoa, and the French cooperation budget goes to the Ivory Coast; and the problem raised by the failure of Ivory Coast to produce cocoa to sign the international commodity agreement.

The fall in cocoa prices since 1978 has meant a sharp cut in revenue for the Ivory Coast. From 1985, all production is expected to take over from cocoa as the main force in the Ivorian economy.

## Eight ministers face axe in Nigeria coalition crisis

From Our Correspondent, Lagos, July 9

With the collapse of Nigeria's two-party coalition, the dominant National Party has called on ministers of the People's Party to resign immediately.

The ministers affected are Foreign Affairs, Education, Civil Aviation and Sports, as well as four ministers of state—Interior, Communications, Labour and Finance. The most senior, Professor Ishaya Adau, the Foreign Minister, was yesterday on an official visit to Bulgaria.

However, a spokesman for president Shagari said today that it was not certain that all the People's Party ministers would automatically cease to hold office.

Under Nigeria's constitution the Cabinet is chosen on merit and not party allegiance. The spokesman said that some of the ministers could be retained because of their outstanding records, provided they broke with

## NZ budget increases beer price

From Our Correspondent  
Wellington, July 9

The budget presented to Parliament tonight by Mr. Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, foresees an upturn in the economy which has been stagnant with "virtually no growth since the first oil crisis."

The budget predicts a growth rate of 3 per cent a year throughout the 1980s.

The Government is promoting energy-saving measures, based mainly on natural gas found off the Taranaki coast but it also assured farmers, forestry, manufacturing and fishing industries that their investment needs would not be overlooked.

New duties will raise the price of a packet of 20 cigarettes by 7 cents to \$NZ1.05, a litre of beer by 3 cents to \$NZ1.41 and the price of spirits will also go up.

The budget also includes a 10 per cent increase in the price of beer, which will be 10 cents more for a 330ml bottle.

The increase in beer prices is part of a package of measures designed to reduce the government's budget deficit.

The package also includes a 10 per cent increase in the price of spirits, a 10 per cent increase in the price of tobacco, and a 10 per cent increase in the price of alcohol.

## Man in the News

## Poet makes an indecisive president

President Alhaji Shehu Shagari, whose ruling National Party has just been deserted by its coalition partner, is a paradox in the cut-and-thrust world of Nigerian politics.

With the Nigerian People's Party now becoming the fourth party in opposition against him, President Shagari will carry on as best he can under the country's American-style constitution, which does not oblige his party to have an absolute majority in the National Assembly.

Yet among ambitious colleagues and rivals, President Shagari has never shown a burning desire to hold office.

In a nation noted for his integrity, he is retiring, reticent and reflective. And in a materialist milieu he is deeply religious and a regarded Hausa poet.

These are President Shagari's strengths. Unfortunately, 21 months after Nigeria's return to civilian rule these are seen to be insufficient. As a politician he is respected but not admired. Like Mr. Jimmy Carter he is acknowledged as a simple

and sincere but also ineffective politician.

President Shagari's style has been lofty and remote. His tactics have been to ride out Nigeria's many crises by doing nothing. He is tolerant of criticism and always democratic, but he has proved indecisive and the Government gives the appearance of drifting.

In the 21 months that the President has been in power, the country has been rocked by an oil scandal over alleged embezzlement of \$2,800m (£1,435m), quarrels over revenue allocation and constant threats to his coalition.

Senators and representatives chest and scuffle while the budget runs into deficit. Governors challenge the President in court, while their own legislatures are in disarray. Smuggling, corruption and armed robbery are increasing while textile, cocoa, groundnut and palm oil production is steadily running down.

In foreign policy, the absence of any clear framework for Nigeria's initiative in the Libyan involvement has caused Chad civil war to pass itself into a corner. President Shagari's critics say he suffered from the



Mr. Shagari: A paradox in Nigerian politics.

delusion that when Nigeria faced with a general strike called Libya had to answer.

In the recent border dispute with Cameroon, the latter's refusal to give clear answers to Nigeria's many crises by doing nothing. He is tolerant of criticism and always democratic, but he has proved indecisive and the Government gives the appearance of drifting.

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## Spacecraft prepares for second Saturn close-up

Voyager 2 has sent back its first photographs of Saturn during its approach to the planet on June 28. The spacecraft was launched in August 1977 and has already passed Jupiter on its way to the outer planets of the solar system.

Voyager 1, launched later on a faster trajectory overtook Voyager 2 in December 1977 and has already sent back close-up photographs of Jupiter and Saturn.

Saturn, Voyager 2 will pass its closest to Saturn on August 25 but will not approach as near as Voyager 1. On the off-chance that the craft will meet intelligent life, Voyager 2 carries a 12in copper record of the former American president, Mr. Jimmy Carter and Dr. Khr. Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and diagrams and pictures of the Earth's biology and geology.

## Trial date in Broglie case fixed

From Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, July 9

The change of government may give a new impetus to legal proceedings in the still unexplained case of the murder of Prince Jean de Broglie, the prominent leader of the Republican Party, who was assassinated in broad daylight in Paris in December 1976. The Chamber of Appeal has decided to send for trial the November four of the persons charged in the case and detained for the past four and a half years.

One of the accused, M. Gérard Briché, aged 36, who is charged with murder, has confessed to being paid 50,000 francs (£4,500) to shoot the politician. Two of the others are M. Guy Simone, aged 38, a former police inspector, who allegedly acted as a go-between, and M. Pierre de Varga, aged 61, a former business associate of the victim, who is accused of instigating the crime. They are charged with complicity to murder.

The Broglie affair developed last into a political and police scandal when the satirical weekly, *Le Canard Enchaîné*, alleged that senior officials had knowledge of plans to murder the prince and that the Ministry of the Interior had covered up the plot. A parliamentary commission of inquiry was set up in 1979 to investigate the political responsibilities involved, but it came to no conclusion. Three successive judicial investigations were also made into the case, including one by a member of the Court of Appeal. It is on the basis of these investigations that the Chamber of Accusations gave its ruling.

## Hundreds die in Ghana tribal massacre

Wulensi, Ghana, July 9.—A small but bitter tribal fighting in northern Ghana last month in which hundreds died and thousands were made homeless.

Eyewitnesses in the village of Wulensi, about 175 miles north of Accra, said that warriors of the Konkomba tribe stormed in just after dawn on June 21, killing more than 500 members of the rival Nanton tribe with guns, bows and arrows and cutlasses and burning down their homes.

Reports said that 520 bodies of men, women and children had been buried. Police and troops were moved in to put down the fighting said that between 200 and 300 more people might have died in neighbouring villages.

With the Nanton refusing to work their farms or travel in the area without army protection, the planting of yams, the staple root crop of Ghana, has been disrupted, opening up the prospect of famine next year.

The Government has declared the region a disaster area, set up a national committee to coordinate relief work and banned the carrying of arms, the Ghana News Agency said.

President Hilla Limann is to visit the area at the weekend.

The trouble started in late April, according to reports, when a brawl in a beer bar between two men, a Nanton and a Konkomba, in the Nanton district capital of Bimbilla. Local people were reluctant to discuss the fight, but reports said the son of the local Nanton chief, was over a girl.

In recent years, educated Konkombas have claimed that their basic human rights are infringed by the subordination of their semi-nomadic tribe to Nanton domination. The Nanton claim a right to appoint chiefs to Konkomba villages and to extract tribute in the form of unpaid labour and taxes.

For their part, the Nanton have been accused of mistreating Konkombas who have settled in their tribal areas.

## Moscow stirred by its first rock opera

From Michael Binyon  
Moscow, July 9

Dressed all in black, the rock group took up positions flanking the stage. A red and blue laser began pulsing through the theatre, and with flashing lights, deafening percussion and clouds of smoke, the music gave way to the amplified chant of Russian Orthodox church music as the youthful cast in white robes entered in procession on to the stage.

The first full rock opera staged in Moscow buffeted the young and chic in the packed theatre from the opening minutes. "Vostok," the premiere, already sending a buzz through the arts world, set the seal of official acceptance of Western-style rock music in the citadels of Soviet culture.

*June and Perchance*, a two-act rock tragedy based on the true story of a Russian sea captain's love for a Californian Spanish girl in 1806, drew together some of the leading names in the Soviet arts world today. The lyrics are by Andrei Voznesensky, arguably the greatest living Russian poet, and the choreography is by Vladimir Vasiliev, Bolshoi Ballet dancer. The show is directed by Mark Zakharov, one of Moscow's more adventurous theatre directors.

The opera, having battled its way past dubious censors, seems set to become the sensation of the autumn season, when it is to begin its run.

It is based on a poem Voznesensky wrote in 1972 about a Russian naval expedition that reached San Francisco when the town was Spanish. The Orthodox captain fell in love with the governor's daughter, a Roman Catholic. He overcame objections and was engaged, but was ordered to leave the town.

He promised to return to marry the girl, but died crossing Siberia by horse two years later. She waited for him for 35 years before learning of his death and immuring herself in a convent.

As with all innovative Soviet theatre, the opera is laden with political and social significance that reaches beyond the theatre walls. A love story is set against a clear parallel of Soviet-American relations.

More than once there are references to the tense international situation. "The Russian Church, more than ever making its quiet influence felt in Soviet life now, plays a central role. The famous Russian symbol, the Madonna of Kazan, is ever present. The ritual changes lead straight into contemporary life as a synthesizer and percussion turn the rhythm of the liturgy into a pop music refrain reminiscent of Godspell and Jesus Christ Superstar."

Indeed, the borrowings from the Western youth revolt music of the 1960s are striking. There is a fairly explicit love scene where rock harmony and dissonance mingle, several haunting melodies, a few Voznesensky's poetry, and a dissonance-style lighting shining through the plastic stage floor.

At the end of the cast ensemble on stage, discard their costumes—though not all their clothes—and sing "Alekisa to love" as a kind of universal hymn.

Voznesensky, a respected and much-translated poet, has only recently emerged from a cloud of official disapproval after he supported a group of writers who cried to publish a collection of uncensored poetry. For him the rock opera is something new. He and the rest of the cast received thunderous applause yesterday.

Voznesensky, elected two weeks ago to the board of the official Writers' Union, has increasingly been drawn to Soviet pop culture—the best-selling pop records of last year.

Last year he was unable to accept an invitation to a poetry reading in London, but he will visit Britain to give a chance—the name of the captain's ship—the *Brundage* in London in November.

## DISSIDENT JAILED

Prague, July 9.—Mr. Jiri Grunvald, a signatory of the Charter 77 human rights document, was jailed for four years and sentenced to three years of forced residence for subversive activity, including editing unofficial documents.

## MISSILES SEIZED IN NAMIBIA

Windhoek, July 9.—Security forces last night killed another 16 black guerrillas in Namibia and seized arms and ammunition which included Sam 7 missiles, Major General Charles Lloyd, the South African commander, said today.

The announcement brings to 98 the number of insurgents killed in clashes with the security forces since the beginning of July, and to 462 the number killed since the beginning of the year.

General Lloyd said that none of his men was lost during the clash and that the South Africans captured a large quantity of Soviet-made equipment.

AP and Agence France Presse.

## LIQUOR TOLL REACHES 245

Delhi, July 9.—The death toll in India's illicit liquor poisoning rose to 245 today as victims were still being taken to hospital in the southern city of Bangalore.

The disaster also hit Mysore, 80 miles from Bangalore, where 16 people were killed by the same spritz.

Police have arrested 60 people on charges of selling the lethal drink believed to contain methyl alcohol.

## Harijans seek solace in Islam

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, July 9

The Indian Government has promised Harijans to find out why hundreds of Hindu villagers in south India have suddenly become Muslims.

The converts are all Harijans, Mahatma Gandhi's term for "untouchables" the lowest order in the caste system. Their defection, regarded by some Hindus as alarming, is primarily a protest against the way Harijans are humiliated by society.

Although the concept of untouchability is outlawed, millions of Harijans in rural India still live under the extraordinarily complex apparatus of caste which has been their lot for thousands of years.

The development of education and urban society in recent years has gone some way to softening caste differences in cities. But in the countryside, where most people live, Harijans are still expected to "know their place" at the bottom of the social scale. They live on the fringes of villages, draw water from their own wells, do most of the menial jobs and have to avoid "polluting the air" the higher castes breathe.

Harijans are not allowed to run stalls or barber shops, have to remove their shoes when passing through higher caste districts and are not allowed to wear shawls. They are also often brutally ill-treated by landlords, foremen and policemen.

It seems clear that the defections spring from deep-seated feelings of oppression under which the villagers have lived with little hope of relief.

Concerned about the conversions to Islam, MPs have called on the Government to "nip this in the bud," and to find out whether Harijans have been bribed to change faith.

There is a long history of Hindus becoming Muslims. Many have converted out of conviction, others have done so in the hope of political advantage. But for centuries most of the low caste and outcaste people who have crossed the religious frontier have been opting for the relative equality found in Islam in preference to their wretched status.

Commitment to improvement of the status of the Harijans is one of the pillars of the constitution and of government policies. The Untouchability Offences Act is supposed to free Harijans from the tyranny of petty rules, but traditional practices are often stronger than the law.

Economic and educational improvement for more than one fifth of India's people who make up the so-called scheduled castes and scheduled tribes is sought through a quota system which guarantees them jobs, school places and legislative seats.

Harijans' economic lot is hardly likely to improve after conversion to Islam. Muslims tend to be in the poorer section of society, and like the supposedly casteless Sikhs, have developed their own kind of caste system.



# Parents face fines threat

## CIVIL DISORDERS

Steps the Government are taking in the aftermath of the recent riots in Liverpool and London were outlined during a debate in the House of Commons.

Mr Margaret Thatcher said that the Home Secretary was looking at all possible assistance to the police by way of equipment.

The Government was looking at any changes in the law which might be possible.

We also have the said looking at ways in which compensation could be paid as quickly as possible to those whose property had been gutted in the riots.

We will be looking at everything we can do to try to improve the general environment of the areas.

The irony is that in Liverpool, these matters have occurred in an area where a great deal of money has been poured through the urban programme and in housing.

The thing is to get the money used better and in a more humane way than in the past.

During questions to Home Office Minister, Mr. Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State, Home Office, announced that the Government intended to introduce legislation to give the courts powers to inflict heavy fines upon the parents of youngsters convicted of causing damage.

There is to be a debate on civil disorder in Britain next Thursday. Mr. Michael Brown (Brixton and Southwark, C) began questions to Mr. Mayhew.

Considering the maintenance of law and order and continuing spread of violence, would the Government be prepared to consider the possibility of introducing legislation to give the courts powers to inflict heavy fines upon the parents of youngsters convicted of causing damage?

Mr. Mayhew: I am wholeheartedly with you in your desire to support the police and see that they have every facility available which they need.

The Home Secretary fully endorsed the use of CS gas in Merseyside. We need to consider what other equipment police may need and the use of tear gas is certainly not ruled out.

Mr. Joe Ashton (Barnes and Wembley, Lab): What is the logic in spending 25,000 on Trident missiles to protect us against the Russians who have not smashed one shop window, and yet our cities have

been battered by gangs of misbehaving unemployed youths on whom she is not spending an extra tuppence halfpenny to find work?

Mr. Thatcher: That is an absurd question from a person who has been behind a government which put into effect Chevaline and all the time believed in an independent nuclear deterrent.

Mr. Ian Lloyd (Havant and Waterlooville, C): Since any MP who has visited a country in which there is real and grinding poverty will attest there is no correlation between poverty and the rioting and looting we have had in this country, should we not seek an explanation for these deplorable events in some of the sedulous sociological claptrap which is passed out in our schools as education?

Mr. Thatcher: There are many poor societies which are scrupulously honourable in everything they do, and would not sink to some of the things we have seen in this country.

I agree with the leader in the Daily Mirror which said that the violence in Liverpool had nothing to do with the city's problems of unemployment and poverty.

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her proposals for higher education. Mrs Thatcher: The latest programme of the University Grants Committee provides for an increase in science and technology places in that respect Mr Foot's point is fully met.

There are a considerable number of places in polytechnics which were meant to take charge of vocational training to a greater extent than universities.

Mr. Hugh Fraser (Stafford and Stone, C): Outside the Commons there are many people who feel that this House is paying insufficient attention to the immediate problem, which is law and order.

Some Labour MPs seem to be condoning violence. . . (Lord Labour protests). To suggest rioting in Liverpool because of Japanese students is totally ridiculous.

Many people feel we are not taking seriously enough this question of support of the police, and the fact that once a state loses the monopoly of violence other people will take it. That is the danger.

Mr. Thatcher: I hope that no one in this House would on this side—either condones or excuses violence on the scale which we have seen recently. It is totally unacceptable and totally unjustifiable.

This Government in particular, and especially the Home Secretary, have given every support to the police in their arduous and dangerous duties.

We have increased the numbers in the police in England and Wales by some 2,000. Their morale is good and they are carrying out their duties superbly. We must support them to the hilt.

Has the Prime Minister had any light of the situation aimed to proceed with the act of barbarism and cut university places which is now being discussed?

Mr. Thatcher: I must take issue with that. The Government has increased by 500 per cent since 1960, but equally places in universities have gone up enormously since that time. There is no connection between the two.

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priority to the youth opportunities programme. In a particular area where violence and rioting has occurred, a great deal of that has been undertaken by children who are actually of school age—some of the age of 9-16. It has nothing whatever to do with the riots.

Of course we will try to find all possible jobs, but again in that particular area the history of labour relations does not encourage firms to go there. . . (Lord Labour protests). That is why we have to have so much emphasis on small businesses.

Mr. Heffer: Stupid woman. Mr. James Pausley (Rugby, C): The recent breakdown of law and order in certain of our cities calls for a more positive reaction than the supply of helmets to our police.

Will she take steps to consider the reintroduction of corporal punishment for those aged under 18 for a trial period of three years?

Mr. Mayhew: And cut off their hands.

Mr. Robert Brown (Newcastle upon Tyne, West, Lab): The policies the Government are adopting are the policies of our society. She is being portrayed as the biggest vandal in this country.

Her Government is regularly making a mess of everything. We had an example yesterday of the gas industry.

Does she not see any connection between the gas industry and the riots? People do watch television.

Mr. Thatcher: I think his question is ridiculous and absurd. No, I do not see any connection between the gas industry and the riots.

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Mr. Thatcher: Those who are responsible



In this final extract, Mohamed Heikal considers what may be Khomeini's legacy to Iran and asks

## Who will succeed the Ayatollah?

Khomeini is extremely shrewd, but his single-mindedness at times leads him to adopt attitudes which can only make one gasp. "The Revolution did not take place to provide people with food," he told me. No doubt man cannot live by bread alone, but the problem of unemployment, already acute under the Shah, has grown worse since the Revolution, and those without work naturally want enough to eat, and the jobs which alone can provide that.

Khomeini is not interested in economic theories. When challenged, he will point out that the officers who have seized power in so many Arab countries, and the princes who have inherited power, know as little about economics as he does; and as a *faqih* he fairly lays claim to more wisdom than they. But the others are susceptible to argument and to advice: how can anyone argue with absolutes, or offer advice to a *faqih* whose inspiration comes from somewhere outside?

Post-revolutionary Iran has been in desperate need of some form of economic planning. Although oil production has been cut back, there are three million barrels of Iranian oil reaching world markets every day, which means a daily income of between \$120 and \$150 million. There should be some aggressive programme for making the best use of this revenue.

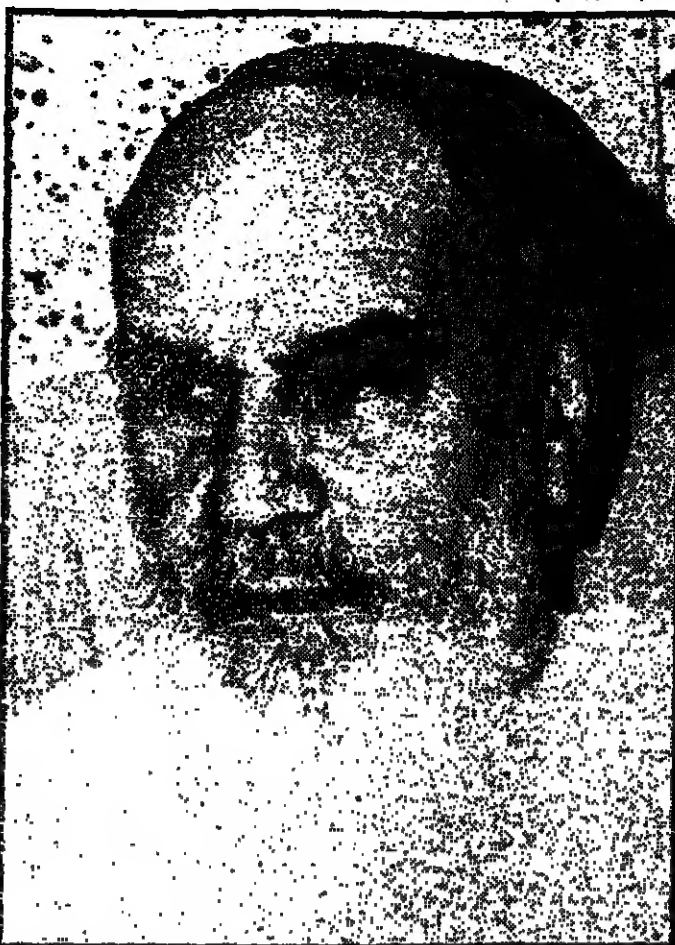
President Bani-Sadr explained to me that there were many projects which had been started under the former regime and which it would have been sensible to complete — not all the enterprises sponsored by the Shah were inspired by *folie de grandeur*. For example, there was a \$600 million project for new housing outside Tehran which would have provided much-needed homes for hundreds of families, and which could have been completed after the Revolution in three months of concentrated work. But nothing was done.

Bani-Sadr would have liked to see the adoption of a short-term plan to cover worthwhile projects already started and capable of completion in about a year, and after that a long-term plan for orderly development.

But instead of this the people have continued to be summoned day after day for fresh, and virtually uncontrolled demonstrations. How can a country be said to be governed where students are allowed to arrest a cabinet minister simply because they happen to have come across a document showing that once in the past he had met someone from the American Embassy?

It was to Khomeini, and not the prime minister, that people went if they wanted something done. It was the Imam and his family, not the cabinet, who mattered in the eyes of the people.

The fact that Khomeini was reputed to be easily swayed by the last person he spoke to made matters worse. Discussions would take place between Khomeini and a visitor or group of visitors, and subsequently bits of these discussions would be made public by the participants and presented as definite rulings by the Imam. The result was total confusion.



Khomeini at 80: he thinks and talks in terms of absolutes, but for how much longer can he continue to rule Iran?

It has to be admitted that Khomeini showed enormous skill as a revolutionary strategist. He had the patience and determination required to effect the overthrow of a formidable regime. He showed a sensitivity to the moods and yearnings of his people which is almost unique in Persian history. This will always ensure him a prominent place in the story of our times. But his inability to consolidate the ground gained must severely detract from his claims to true greatness.

### Excesses of the early days

Those who know him appreciate that Khomeini is a kindly man, but he does not trouble to present the softer side of his nature to the world. When the Pope approached him on the subject of the American hostages his answer was a scathing attack in medieval language: "Do not concern yourself with what is happening in Iran. Turn your eyes towards what is happening in America. Why did you remain silent when Jerusalem was occupied?" — and so on. It was not to be expected that Khomeini should learn the language of diplomacy, but he ought to have let his diplomats talk to other diplomats.

There can be no doubt that many of the excesses of the early days of the Revolution created a thoroughly bad impression in other countries, which neither Khomeini nor those closest to him did anything to counteract.

There were arbitrary arrests, and an estimated 55,000 people were brought to trial, often in secret courts and without any opportunity to defend themselves. About 350 people were executed in the first three months, and executions have continued

ever since, often on what appear to be the flimsiest charges and after trials which are a mockery of justice. Khomeini insists that these trials and sentences have been governed by *qassas* (punishment), not by *intiqam* (revenge), but the distinction is not always obvious.

Khomeini thinks and talks in terms of absolutes, and he is conditioned absolutely by his view of Shia history. He can never forget the tragic results of the battle of Siffin, and this has left in him a profound suspicion of anything to do with arbitration or compromise.

It is in foreign as much as domestic affairs that his inability to compromise has created complications which a wider knowledge of the world — or, should one say, a more worldly approach — could have avoided.

Iran remains one of the biggest strategic prizes in the world, thanks to its geographical position and natural wealth. Whoever rules it — or fails to rule it — Iran will remain an area of conflict between the superpowers.

But Khomeini quarrelled with Russia, and allowed the American hostage problem to be exploited by the mullahs, who for their own purposes wanted to keep the country in a perpetual ferment. The hostage problem was, in fact, simply handled on all sides.

Tension on the border mounted. There were some clashes after one of which Bani-Sadr was reported as saying "If Iraqi provocation continues I cannot prevent my army from marching on Baghdad." Just as in 1914 troops on both sides embarked for the front shouting "Nach Paris!" "A Berlin!" — so along this forgotten frontier between two races and two creeds old hatreds revived.

The Iraqi feel confident that either Iran will suffer an internal collapse, or the



present regime will be replaced by one from the army, which will recognize the reality of the military situation and be prepared to make peace. Of course, anything can happen, but because of its strategic importance it is unlikely that the super-powers would ever be prepared to stand idly by while Iran collapsed, or that any regime would be more willing to compromise than the government of mullahs has shown itself to be.

Khomeini believes in Islam as the universal verity which eclipses nationalism and is a unifying force. But a country like Iraq depends on nationalism for its survival — Iraqi nationalism and Arab nationalism. Take those away and it will split up among Sunnis, Shi'is, Kurds, and perhaps even smaller fragments.

In the same way, in the other wing of the Fertile Crescent there are people at work only too eager to destroy the concept of Arab nationalism and divide up the area into a number of small sectarian states — Jewish, Maronite, Alawite, Druze, and so on. This is not a new idea, but it is the exact antithesis of all that the Arab nationalist movement has been struggling for in this century.

Indeed, one of the paradoxes of the Iraq-Iran war is that the spirit which has inspired the Iranian armed forces to resist is more nationalism than religion. True, the Iraqis have been as astonished as were the Shah's soldiers and police at the fanatical courage of some of the Iranians opposed to them. I have heard Iraqi generals telling President Sadam Hussein: "They come at us like madmen!"

But for the Iranians it has become a patriotic war, just as Stalin made the war against the Nazis a war for Mother Russia rather than for communism. Already Khomeini has seen the Islamic content of the revolution — he brought about diluted in his lifetime by the nationalism he professes to have so little time for.

What does the future hold? As long as Khomeini lives, things are not likely to change substantially. His prestige remains enormous, and he is able to keep the masses in a state of permanent alert which makes the consolidation of other power groupings in the country almost impossible.

The mullahs can present a united front against the lay politicians, but they are divided by many personal and regional rivalries. In

theory Khomeini has a destined successor in Ayatollah Hussein Muntazari. Earlier this would probably have been Ayatollah Mahmud Taleghani, who might have played a useful stabilizing role, but unfortunately he died a few months after the Revolution.

### Power gained with Soviet support

Muntazari is a good and sincere man, but simple in the ways of the world. I was once talking to Ibrahim Yazdi in his presence, and when he heard us speaking in English Muntazari was horrified: "Why are you using the language of infidels? Have you forgotten that the language of the Koran is Arabic? Have you forgotten that the language of the angels and of Paradise is Arabic?"

This leaves the communists and the army. Many people fear that it is the communists who will inevitably fill the vacuum resulting from Khomeini's disappearance. I think this is most unlikely, unless they are brought to power on the backs of an invading Soviet army; and that nightmare of the West can be ruled out because Iran, unlike Afghanistan, is very definitely not



Ayatollah Muntazari — in theory the destined successor of Khomeini: a sincere man, but simple in the ways of the world.

in an indeterminate area of superpower influence.

Moreover, communists in Iran suffer from several crippling disadvantages. In the first place, Khomeini or no Khomeini, the Shia Persians are a people who have religion in their bones, and for them the atheism of communism rules it out as an acceptable creed.

Then the Tudeh Party's total commitment to Moscow has identified it with one of Iran's habitual enemies. In Tsarist days Russian expansionism was in continual conflict with Persian nationalism, and Stalin and his successors have demonstrated that Russia's predatory instincts are not dead. The Tudeh Party's backing for the Soviet puppet Azerbaijan and Gilan republics after the war has not been forgotten.

Because of this the party has never played any significant part in affairs. In the great struggle over nationalization it was actually in opposition, and when the revolutionary movement got going in 1977 its leadership failed to understand its significance and were late in jumping on the bandwagon.

The only time when communism attracted a sizeable number of recruits was in the aftermath of the counter-coup. At present the communists are weakened by sectarian divisions. There are at least eleven different splinter groups of Marxists operating under various labels, but all very much on the periphery of political life.

What about the army? This remains the only organized force in the country, and its standing has been inevitably strengthened as a result of the war with Iraq. As General Walieddin Fellaht, Chief of Staff of the Iranian army, said to me: "Thanks to the war the army has been purged of its sins. Today it is no longer the army of the Shah which fired on unarmed citizens,

but the army which has successfully defended the integrity of the Motherland."

Many people have been planning to make use of the army for their own purposes. Soon after the fall of the Shah the Americans began encouraging the minorities — Kurds, Baluchis, and others — hoping that the army would have to be rebuilt to cope with their insurrections, and that when this had happened, it would turn on the mullahs in Tehran. But any validity this calculation may once have had has been destroyed by the war.

Nor are the exiled politicians and generals who claim to have contacts with elements in the army likely to find much comfort. If there is a cell of resistance in the army it will operate on its own and not on direction from outside. Conspirators are not normally willing to hand over the prize they have won to someone else.

The Iranian Revolution, like the French and Russian Revolutions, has found itself quickly having to face an external as well as an internal threat, and it may well be that war will help to consolidate this revolution as it did the earlier two. Much will depend on the social and class affiliations of the new breed of officers and NCOs who have gained promotion as the result of the Revolution and the war.

It may also be that history will repeat itself in other ways, and that there is even now somewhere in the ranks of the revolutionaries a Bonaparte or a Stalin waiting to seize his chance.

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*The Return of the Ayatollah, by Mohamed Heikal, from which these extracts have been taken, will be published by André Deutsch in November.*

### Court of Appeal

## Trustees' role as landlords

*Patel v Patel*  
Before Lord Justice Ormrod, Lord Justice O'Connor and Mr Justice Sheldon.

[Judgment delivered July 8]

The Court of Appeal, in allowing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Mahendrakumar Patel and Javedi Patel, from a decision of Judge Tunin sitting at Willesden County Court, held that there was nothing in the Rent Act, 1977, which prevented personal representatives of a tenant from claiming relief under Schedule 15, case 9 of the Act. The judge had dismissed the plaintiffs' claim for possession of 9 Garratt Road, Edgware, Middlesex.

Schedule 15 provides grounds for possession of dwelling-houses let on or subject to protected or statutory tenancies. Case 9: Where the dwelling-house is reasonably required by the landlords for occupation as a residence for — (a) himself, or (b) any son or daughter of his over 18 years of age, or (c) his father or mother, or (d) if the dwelling-house is let on or subject to a regulated tenancy, the father or mother of his wife or husband, and the landlord did not become a landlord by purchasing the dwelling-house or any interest therein after — (i) November 7, 1956, in the case of a controlled tenancy; (ii) March 8, 1973, in the case of a tenancy which became a regulated tenancy by virtue of

section 14 of the Counter-Inflation Act, 1973; (iii) May 24, 1974, in the case of a regulated furnished tenancy; or (iv) March 23, 1965, in the case of any other tenancy.

Mr P. Morgan for the plaintiffs, Mr Bharat Patel, the defendant, in person.

LORD JUSTICE O'CONNOR said that the house had been jointly owned by Mr and Mrs H. M. Patel, the brother and sister-in-law of the first plaintiff. They had been tragically killed in a road accident in 1977, leaving behind two infant children.

The plaintiffs were appointed guardians of the two children, and, after taking out letters of administration to the estate of Mr and Mrs H. M. Patel, held the house as personal representatives. Subsequently, the plaintiffs adopted the two children.

In June 1979 the plaintiffs, by written agreement, granted a one-year tenancy to Mr Bharat Patel, who was not a relative. That tenancy expired by effluxion of time and the defendant remained as a statutory tenant.

The plaintiffs claimed possession of the house under Schedule 15, case 9, of the Rent Act, 1977. The judge dismissed their claim holding that he was bound by two authorities of the Court of Appeal, *Sharpe v Nicholls* (1945) KB 382 and *Parker v Rosenberg* (1947) 1 KB 371, to conclude that they were not landlords for the purposes of case

9. The reason for the judge's taking the approach which he did was the way that the cases had been dealt with in the textbooks. The proposition which had found favour with the textbooks was that personal representatives could not be landlords unless they had a beneficial interest in the property.

In his Lordship's judgment that was not what the cases decided. The true ratio of those cases was that personal representatives could not normally claim relief under case 9 because if they did they would be acting in breach of trust in the sense that they would be claiming trust property for their own personal use. There was nothing in the Act which said that personal representatives could not be landlords.

The plaintiffs as personal representatives were also trustees for the two children. They were not acting in breach of trust by seeking to live in the house with the children.

Those exceptional circumstances took the case out of the ambit of *Sharpe* and *Parker*. The judge erred in holding that he was bound by those two decisions.

His Lordship would set aside the judgment and make an order for possession.

Lord Justice Ormrod and Mr Justice Sheldon delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Herbert & Gowers & Co.

## DELAY CAN FRUSTRATE ARBITRATION

*Paul Wilson & Co. A/S v Partenreederei Hannah Blumenthal*

Mr Justice Staughton in the Queen's Bench Division said that an arbitration agreement could be frustrated where a fair trial was impossible because of delay caused by both parties.

The buyers of a ship commenced arbitration proceedings and served points of claim on the sellers in 1974. The issue arose as to what oral representations had been made by the sellers in 1969 when the ship was sold.

HIS LORDSHIP said in a commercial list case that there could scarcely be a fair trial of an oral transaction of business eleven years later. The application of the rule of frustration to arbitrations was not ruled out by the House of Lords in *Esmeralda v South India Shipping Corporation Ltd* (The Times, January 27, 1981) 2 WLR 141.

His Lordship would follow the Master of the Rolls in *The Splendid Sun* (The Times, April 11) (reported as *André & Compagnie SA v Marine Transocean Ltd* (1981) 3 WLR 43) and said that there could be frustration of an arbitration agreement where it was delayed by the mutual default of both parties.

A declaration that the arbitration agreement had been discharged by frustration was granted.

### Law Report

## Gift to non-resident wife not exempt

*Gubay v Kingston (Inspector of Taxes)*  
Before Mr Justice Vinelott.

[Judgment delivered July 6]

The capital gains tax exemption in paragraph 20 of Schedule 7 to the Finance Act, 1965, relating to the disposal of assets between husband and wife, did not apply to a gift of shares by a husband, resident in the United Kingdom during part of the relevant year of assessment, to his non-resident wife.

Even though they were living together in the normal sense, because of the provision in section 42 (2) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act, 1970, the wife could not be treated as a married woman living with her husband in the year of assessment, with the result that the gift could not qualify for the exemption.

His Lordship so held in dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mr Albert Gubay, from a decision of special commissioners determining an assessment to tax for 1972-73 of £7,250,000, by reducing it to an agreed amount of £1,399,965. Had the appeal succeeded the assessment would have been reduced to £7,650.

In July 1972 the taxpayer gave 479,638 shares in Kwik Save Discount Group Ltd to his wife. On April 4 of that year she had taken up residence in the

Isle of Man. The taxpayer remained resident in the United Kingdom until October 1972, although he had throughout visited his wife and lived with her in the Isle of Man on most weekends. Accordingly he was resident and ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom for part of 1972-73.

Paragraph 20 of Schedule 7 provides: "(1) If, in any year of assessment, and in the case of a woman who in that year of assessment is a married woman living with her husband, the man disposes of an asset to the wife, or the wife disposes of an asset to the man, both shall be treated as if the asset was acquired from the one making the disposal for the other making the disposal."

Mr J. E. Holroyd Pearce, QC and Mr Robert Vaux for the taxpayer; Mr Robert Carruth for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE VINELOTT said that the reference in paragraph 20(1) to a "married woman living with her husband" had to be construed in accordance with section 42(2) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act, 1970. That section provided, inter alia, that a married woman shall not be treated as "living with her husband" if "one of them is and one of them is not resident in the

United Kingdom for a year of assessment". The special commissioners had upheld the Crown's case that paragraph 20 could not apply to exempt the gain arising on the gift from tax because at the relevant time the taxpayer's wife could not, by reason of section 42(2), be treated as living with the taxpayer.

The taxpayer contended on two alternative grounds that the exemption did apply. First he argued that it was irrelevant whether his wife was to be treated as living with him or not because in paragraph 20 the phrase "and in the case of a woman who in that year of assessment is a married woman living with her husband" applied only where it was the wife who made the disposal.

Undoubtedly the paragraph could have been more clearly drafted, but nevertheless the taxpayer's construction was impossible to accept: the phrase was intended to impose a condition applicable to a gift by a husband to his wife or by a wife to her husband.

The more substantial question raised was whether under section 42(2) the taxpayer and his wife, who were in fact living together in the ordinary sense of those words during the whole of 1972-73, had to be treated for fiscal purposes as living apart. The taxpayer argued that that section did not require them to be treated as living apart because neither he nor his wife were

resident in the United Kingdom "for" the year of assessment. His wife was throughout resident in the Isle of Man and he could not be described as being resident in the United Kingdom "for" the year because he had given up his resident status part way through it.

The Crown's answer was that section 42(2) applied to the case because a person was resident "for" a year of assessment if he was chargeable to income tax for that year. The taxpayer, although resident for only part of the year, was chargeable to United Kingdom tax for the whole period.

Clearly the word "for" when preceding a word denoting a period normally means "during". But it did not follow that in the context of section 42(2) it necessarily had that meaning. It was a natural way of describing a person who had the status and quality for tax purposes of being so resident for a year of assessment.

The taxpayer was such a person. Accordingly the section applied with the result that the exemption in paragraph 20 could not assist the taxpayer.

Solicitors: Rooks, Rider & Co; Solicitor of Inland Revenue. Junior counsel for the plaintiffs in *Auty and Others v National Coal Board* (The Times July 1) was Mr Simon Grenfell. Mr Ross appeared for the purpose of receiving judgment only.

### Chancery Division



## Ecology

# Missing a chance to save Britain's wild places

No single feature of the Government's controversial Wildlife and Countryside Bill has caused such dismay as the inadequacy of its protection for Britain's dwindling moorlands. Next Monday, at report stage in the House of Commons, the issue will come to a head. The outcome could be crucial for the country's few remaining tracts of wilderness.

These wonderful open landscapes are the very essence of our upland national parks — in the Cheviots, the North York Moors, the Brecon Beacons, Snowdonia, Dartmoor and elsewhere. If they are tamed and enclosed, their wild grandeur, the very reason they were designated national parks in the first place, is destroyed.

Yet they are being remorselessly eaten away by agricultural reclamation and afforestation.

Startling new evidence from Birmingham University last month shows that the rate of loss is now far higher than anyone imagined. It is running at a national rate of more than 12,000 acres a year — which, if continued at the same rate, would lead to the loss of all the country's moorland within 30 years.

Since this rate of loss shows no signs of slowing down and since farmers and foresters are under great economic pressure to maintain reclamation, this forecast is well justified.

There is nothing in the Wildlife and Countryside Bill — nor in the new amendments tabled by the Government yesterday — that remotely addresses the scale of the problem.

The Government accepts that it is an important issue. But the Bill's approach to protecting moorland rests exclusively on the goodwill of farmers and foresters — the very people who, however well-disposed to conservation, stand to gain from reclamation.

## Compensation in some form is necessary

Encouraged by bodies like the National Farmers' Union (NFU) and the Country Landowners' Association (CLA), the Government has concluded that only voluntary agreements and handsome annual compensation payments to the farmers and landowners who forgo "improvements" can guarantee to keep the remaining moorlands intact.

Conservation bodies — and the Labour Opposition — believe this

approach is bound to fail if national park authorities are not given a back-up power to prevent conversion when voluntary methods break down. But they agree that compensation in some form is necessary.

The Government's confidence in the "goodwill" approach rests entirely on recent experience in the Exmoor National Park. Between 1954 and 1979 more than 20 per cent of Exmoor's moorland, 12,300 acres, was lost.

But after national publicity in 1977 which led to Lord Porchester's historic "Study of Exmoor" and intensive pressure on local farmers from the NFU and CLA, the rate of loss there has slowed.

But how significant is Exmoor? Until the Birmingham findings emerged last month there was little hard evidence to challenge the Government's contention that only on Exmoor has moorland reclamation been a serious problem.

## The acres that are disappearing

The position on Exmoor is exceptional. In no other national park is the position so exceptional. The Earl of Avon told the House of Lords on March 16. It was on this basis, suspect though it appeared to many, that the Lords narrowly declined to amend the Bill to add a reserve compulsory power for moorland protection for national park authorities.

The debates in the Lords had proceeded on the assumption that, at the very most, 250 acres of moorland a year were disappearing.

The Birmingham University findings dramatically overturn this assumption. The problem is far worse.

"Britain's moorlands are being enclosed and reclaimed at an average rate of 5,000 hectares (12,355 acres) a year", says Dr Martin Parry, the senior geographer who heads the university's "Moorland Change Project", funded by the Social Science Research Council.

The project's interim findings, which were summarized recently in the *New Scientist*, are based on an analysis of moorland reclamation in seven of the country's ten national parks. They show that in the Brecon Beacons, Dartmoor, Snowdonia, North York Moors, Yorkshire Dales, Northumberland and Peak District, reclamation is proceeding rapidly — and may even be accelerating.

What is more, a growing proportion of this conversion is biting

into primary moorland — uplands which have never before been put under the plough.

These findings triggered a remarkable committee stage debate in the House of Commons on June 11. The Opposition spokesman, Mr Denis Howell, urged the Government to review the Bill's approach to the moorland question in the light of the new figures. The exclusively voluntary approach, tailored to the special circumstances of Exmoor, might not be appropriate for the "sensational" situation now revealed by the Birmingham team, he suggested. He urged the Minister, Mr Hector Monro, to keep options open on the Bill's final moorland provisions until the Department of the Environment officials had had time to explore the implications of the new figures with Dr Parry.

But the Minister was adamant. "The rate of loss in our national parks has slowed down substantially in recent years. . . . The voluntary approach is working", he replied, but he did not produce evidence of any kind to refute the new Birmingham findings.

The Government then used its majority in the committee to defeat the Opposition's amendments. In the context of a supposedly non-partisan conservation Bill, it was a surprising display of intransigence.

On Monday fresh amendments, to provide a reserve compulsory power will be debated. The Government's new amendment, on moorland mapping, fails to meet the point.

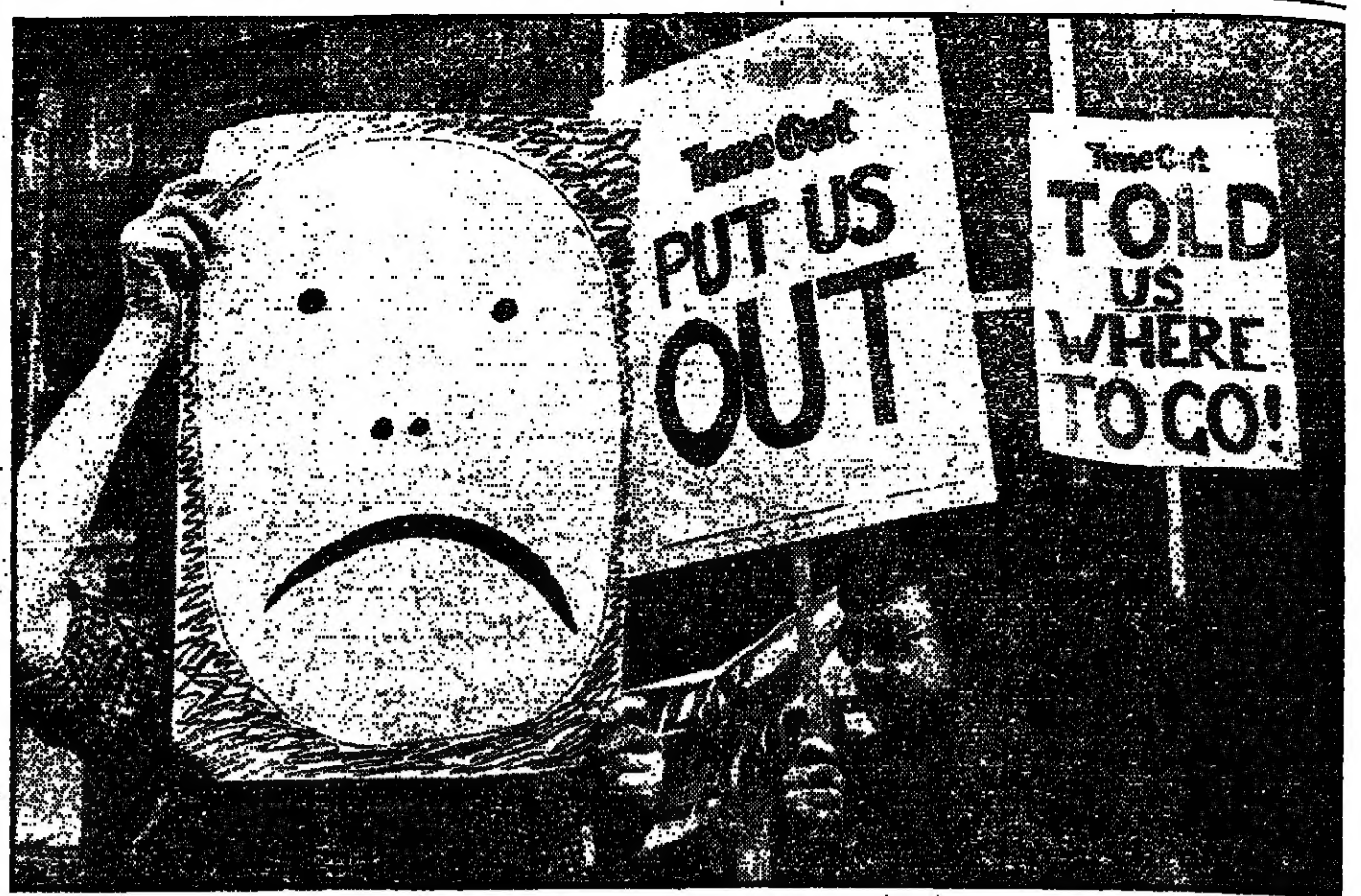
The Bill as it stands has few friends among the conservation organisations who ought to have been its greatest supporters. The moorland issue shows why.

But weak though the Bill now is, it has had one undeniable merit. It has been the catalyst for a deepening of public and Parliamentary understanding of the pressures now affecting the countryside. The very existence of the Bill has helped to generate new evidence on losses of wildlife habitats, on endangered species, on the impact of grant-aided land drainage and now on moorland.

Yet unless the Government is prepared to act more generously on some of these matters, during the Bill's final stages, it will have simply stoked the fires for fiercer future controversy.

**Robin Grove-White**

The author is director of the Council for the Protection of Rural England.



Time Out staff demonstrate after their eviction: unexpected support

## Trends

# The class of '68 goes back to war

"The kids who are joining the staff now don't have the fire in their bellies that we had", mourns a mid-thirties board member of Friends of the Earth, the environmental protest group, where after months of intense internal wranglings there is now an uneasy truce.

"He'd just like to turn the thing into the Bourgeois Guide to the Galaxy", insists Duncan Campbell, news editor of *Time Out*, dismissing his erstwhile proprietor's too-capitalist schemes for the capital's hip-leftie listings paper. Two months of trouble have seen a sit-in, a lock-out, and this week staff demonstrated in Fleet Street.

"We've been infiltrated by the far-out left", says Anthony Steen, Conservative MP and founder and reluctant board member of the pensioners' aid group Task Force, where the whole staff is under notice to quit at the end of this month.

The battle is on for the alternative bureaucracies which are at the heart of the postwar baby bulge's attempt to run the world in its own image. The class of '68, the year of *Time Out*'s birth, have found themselves the victims of their own success, caught in generation gaps, mortgage repayments, and even the dreariest problem of all, maintaining enthusiasm for protest when the opposition has half conceded you were right all along.

At several of the fringe, protest or volunteer organisations, boards of directors are trying to assert old-fashioned authoritarianism over staff members who like to think of themselves as self-starters and have never been schooled to enjoy obedience.

At some, where common purpose and friendships were once enough to unite the team, boards now feel that hierarchy is in order. Tom Burke, who presided over a period of mid-seventies growth at FoE, is a member of its board (which has now proposed employing at least one executive type at near market rates). "Frankly, what we are doing amounts to the substitution of an organization for inspiration", he says.

"In this world we shouldn't expect that the most effective means of operating FoE will automatically provide an ideal working style for staff", says a confidential working paper by FoE's board. "Under no circumstances should the former be second to the latter. . . anyone who cannot accept this argument should find themselves an appropriate life-style organization." It is a clear call to shape up, or ship out.

The rights of management to manage are at the core of disputes at Friends of the Earth, Task Force and

*Time Out*, where the staffs have come to expect — in *Time Out*'s case the habit is enshrined in the union's house agreement — a good deal of autonomy and consultation. "But don't accuse the consultation process of being inefficient", says a senior *Time Out* freelance: "BL would give its eye-teeth for our working record and profitability."

In some cases, the brotherly principle of wage parity is in question: at *Time Out* and Friends of the Earth, the workers have for years had equal pay. At FoE it is poor, and has been seen as part cause of the very high turnover of staff: the board wants to take on some more expensive people. "But that merely means that the organisation becomes top-heavy", says a staff member: "We already have fewer campaign staff than we used to: this will make the imbalance worse."

At *Time Out* the 60-odd staff all earn £8,500: hardly a Third World salary, in spite of the air of street-revolution which these sleek socialists seem to cultivate. But with sales rising (up to 90,000 a week) and profits of about £250,000 on a turnover of £3m, why rock the boat?

"Parity has become increasingly restrictive. I think it would be absurd to take on a 20-year-old at these rates. And if I start a new venture, I can't do it if I have to pay the sort of rates that apply to a paper which has been running for 12 years", says Tony Elliott, the founder and boss of the paper. He believes now that he should have cracked the whip earlier.

While the boards huff and puff with structures and hierarchies and market rates, their staffs are inclined to point to the grassroots support for a more radical approach. Tony Elliott is accused of wanting to hire charismatic writers and to swing *Time Out* more into line with the SDP (he denies it hotly). Meanwhile, just like in the early days, his staff are producing a broadsheet in a cellar: NOT — "a strike broadsheet not an alternative *Time Out*", insists a writer — is in its seventh issue. "We were surprised at the amount of support we got from readers and advertisers", says Nigel Fountain, a senior *Time Out* man.

At FoE it is uncertain to what extent the local groups and supporters will support the board's new approach: there are now 18,000 card-carrying Friends of the Earth. The likely outcome is that the staff will put up with their dissatisfaction at the new plan rather than endanger the group's work.

But at Task Force the situation is more dramatic. Anthony Steen started the organization in the early

1960s as a way of linking the willingness of thousands of young volunteers with the needs of pensioners. "We had 15,000 volunteers at our peak: probably it's around 2,000 now. But we just don't know, because the staff won't tell us", he says.

Mutual intransigence has left the two sides in a thoroughly pettish state (all these rows between people who share worthwhile ends but cannot agree about means have become extraordinarily intense). They cannot agree about the role of volunteers. "They don't want to roll up their sleeves and work", says Steen. "Times have changed", Hackney Task Force's Alistair Wallace says. "Odd-jobbing is no longer the answer to pensioners' needs. We work closely with councils now helping pensioners get their rights. Local authorities fund 70 per cent of our work, and are happy to do so."

"I think that the staff and the board each conceive of completely different organizations", says Irene Loach, the latest of several Task Force directors, who has now resigned even before the board's threatened closure. "Both are completely viable. They are just not the same organization."

Both Tony Elliott and Anthony Steen are said that what they see as politicization — with or without overt party allegiance, and the latter believes his group is a victim of politically-motivated leftists — has taken over organizations set up on the premise of providing a new way of looking at the world, and a new way of running things.

Meanwhile, Tom Burke shares the anxiety of most of the workers in these threatened groups: "What is terribly sad is that we've become enmeshed in the sort of difficulties we always saw in the organizations we were fighting. All this matters so much because we must get back to the business of doing the job we set out to do."

Clearly, the groups' difficulties stem more from success than failure (even FoE, born in 1971, is experiencing increasing support for its rather lacklustre campaigns, though it has severe financial problems). As they grapple with the premonitions of middle age, their mortality is hardly in question yet. Rather, they are grappling with maintaining the forceful ethos, the powerful feeling of group identity, common to any tinpot institution which sets itself up to take on the rest of society. Their problem is that now they virtually represent an alternative establishment of their own. Perhaps they need a club, the Other Athenaeum, so as to get together and talk things over in peace and quiet.

**Richard North**



Enjoying the Brecon Beacons — but the moorland is vanishing at a rapid rate.

## Medicine

# Liver transplants—the quiet success story

For most people, transplant surgery implies operations to replace hearts or kidneys. Here in Britain in the past 18 months massive publicity has gone to the two hospitals with continuing heart transplant programmes, and patients and surgeons have become household names.

Yet, without television coverage or newspaper headlines, a third British medical team has quietly and successfully been transplanting livers. Professor Roy Calne's surgical unit at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge (in collaboration with Dr Roger Williams' liver unit at King's College Hospital, London), has carried out 108 liver transplants since 1968. Thirteen of their last 22 patients given new livers are still alive, giving a one-year survival rate of more than 50 per cent. Of the 37 patients given heart transplants in roughly the same period, 20 have died.

Liver transplantation in man began 18 years ago, after extensive research on animals. Until recently the results have been disappointing in comparison with kidney transplantation, which has long been routine in countries round the world.

Kidney surgeons have several advantages. Use of a mechanical artificial kidney can restore their patients to good health before the operation and can

take over again if anything goes wrong — many patients have had more than one transplant. Because the body has two kidneys, many patients can benefit from the donation of a kidney from a living relative. Technically, too, the operation is relatively straightforward.

In contrast, the patient with liver disease only has one chance. The liver is the biggest organ in the body, weighing 3.4 lb, and functions as a chemical factory. All the blood returning from the stomach and intestines to the heart passes first through the liver, which processes and stores the chemicals extracted from food. The liver also produces proteins vital for blood clotting and eliminates chemical wastes in the bile.

No satisfactory artificial liver has yet been devised, so that, as his liver begins to fail, the patient is likely to have become dangerously ill by the time a transplant is considered.

The liver surgeon faces other problems, too. Organs are in short supply, since the liver has to be removed from a donor certified as brain-dead but with a functioning circulation; attempts to transplant livers removed after the heart has stopped beating have been abandoned. Technically, too, the surgeon has a difficult task in removing a bulky but delicate

organ and in connecting up the bile ducts. Many of the early failures were due to leakage of bile or blocked bile ducts.

The current surgical techniques and the recent results of the Cambridge programme have been described by Professor Calne and his team in a report in the *British Medical Journal* today.

First the healthy liver has to be removed from the brain-dead donor. During this procedure the liver is chilled by circulating a cooling fluid through its blood vessels and bile is washed out of the bile ducts and the gall bladder. Once removed and cooled the liver may be stored

for up to 10 hours before transplantation. The Cambridge unit has recently joined units in Holland and West Germany in a co-operative scheme to match the liver with the most suitable patient awaiting treatment.

Replacement of the patient's diseased liver takes several hours. The operation is likely to be made more difficult by defective blood clotting due to faulty liver function; but a series of technical advances have reduced the risks of complications from leakage or blockage in the bile passages.

Another major advance has been the recent introduction of the new drug cyclosporin A, which seems likely to prove the most effective means of controlling attempts by the body's immunity system to reject the transplanted organ.

How good are the results? The pioneer of liver transplantation, Thomas Starzl of the University of Colorado, has now transplanted more than 200 livers. In his most recent series, operated on since 1974, 65 per cent of patients survived one year and 42 per cent are alive five years after the operation; and longest surviving of all the patients has now passed the 10-year mark. Many of the patients have been children born with defective bile ducts.

Here in Britain the difficulty of obtaining donor livers from children has led Professor Calne to concentrate on adults. Some patients with liver cancer have been treated successfully, but often the tumours have spread beyond the liver and these patients may die from recurrent cancer. The best results have come in patients with cirrhosis of the liver and chronic hepa-

titis. Patients with alcoholic liver disease are rarely suitable.

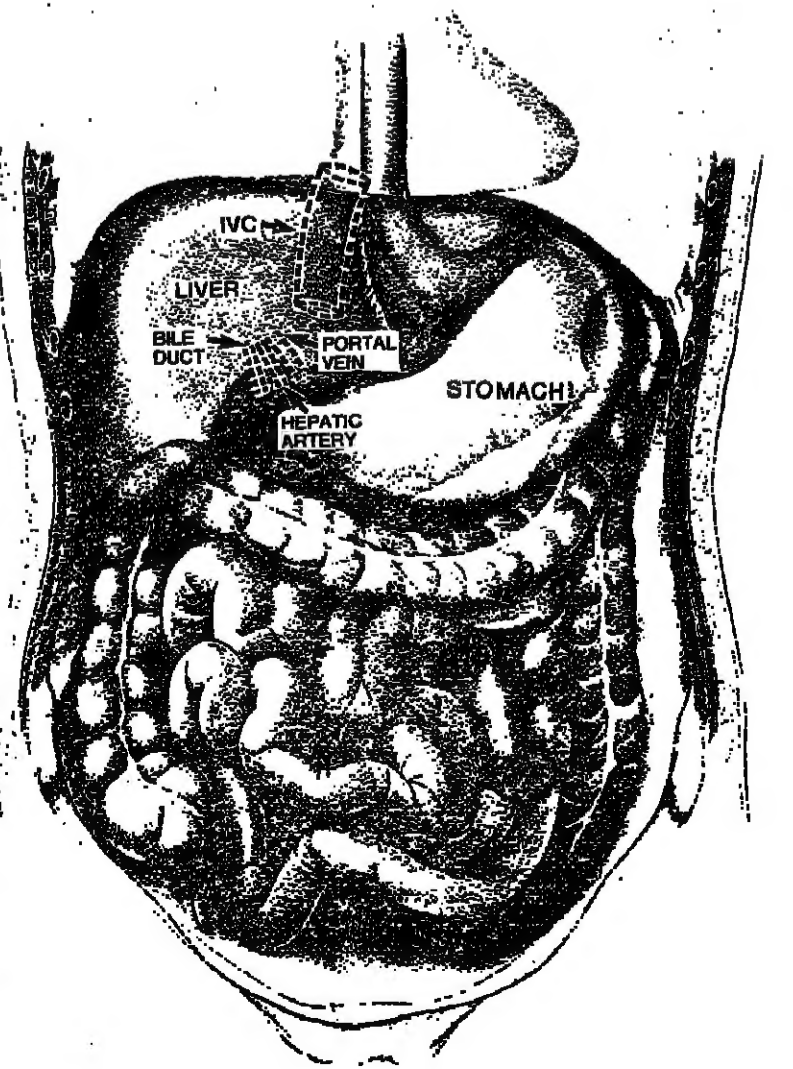
Six of the pioneer patients are alive between four and six years after operation. The recent rise in one-year survival to 50 per cent is due to technical improvements in the operation, the use of cyclosporin, and selection of patients with liver diseases that are unlikely to recur.

As has proved the case with other transplant procedures, the results may be expected to improve further as patients are referred for treatment before their illness reaches a terminal stage. At present, with conventional treatment, patients with cirrhosis and other non-cancerous liver diseases face a long, progressive illness ending in death. Professor Calne and Dr Williams believe that in such cases transplantation offers a good chance of excellent rehabilitation, especially for young patients. They also claim that the costs of transplant treatment may well be less than those of prolonged conventional care.

In the long term, liver transplantation could become as much part of routine medical treatment as is kidney transplantation. The technical problems are well on the way to being solved. But, as with all kinds of organ transplantation, the shortage of donors is the main constraint.

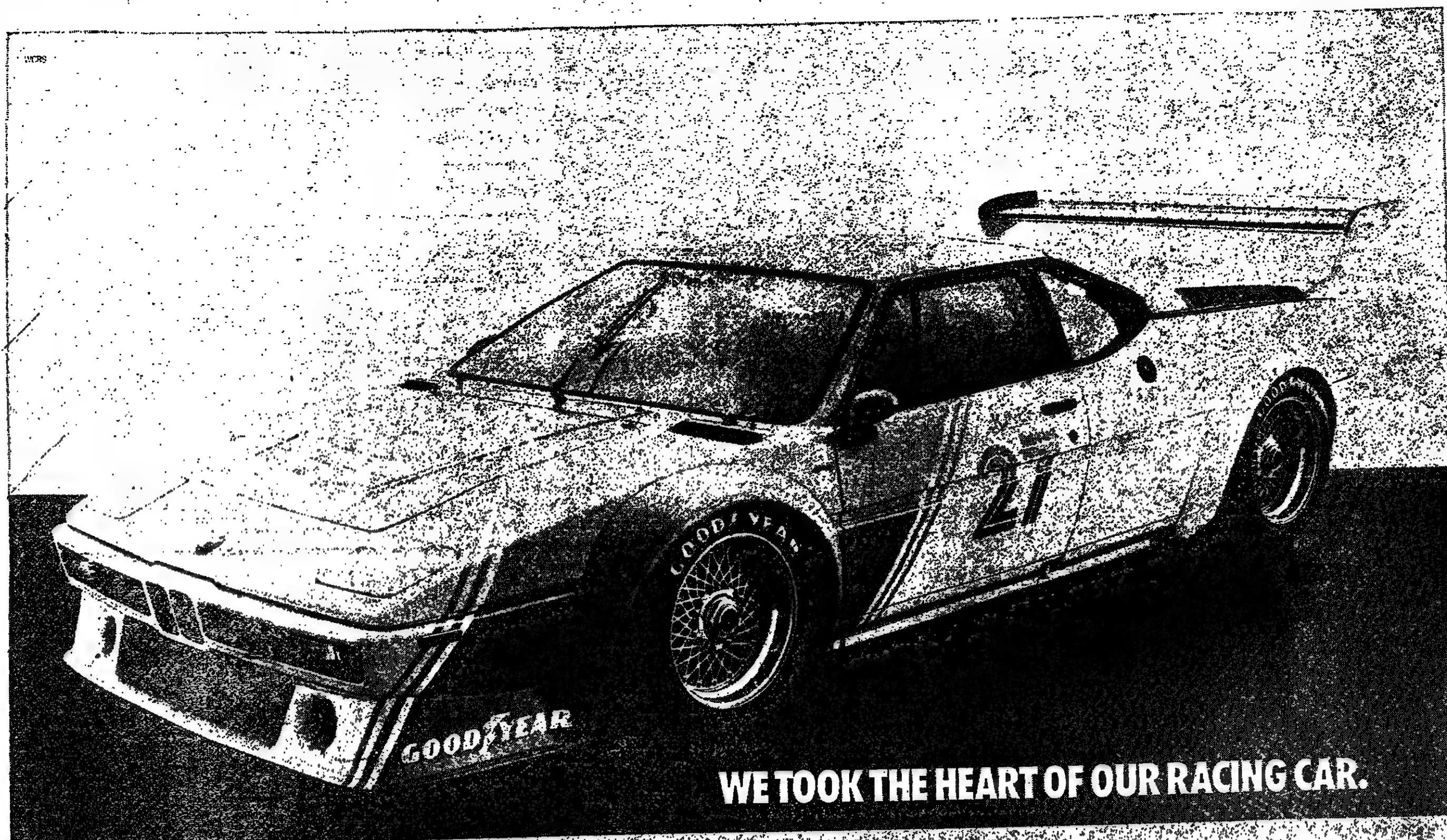
"Liver transplantation has come of age", says the *British Medical Journal* today. It will become established only when donation of organs (and the necessary acceptance of the concept of brain death) have become as routine as blood transfusion.

**Dr Tony Smith**



The joints made by the transplant surgeon in the vessels behind the liver: two in the inferior vena cava vein and further joins in the bile duct, the hepatic artery and the portal vein.





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**Peter Watson**





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## THE SOILED COIN

When events as shocking as those at Toxteth, Manchester Moss Side, Salford, Southall or Brixton occur in any country they provide a test of the quality of that society. It is a test not just of its capacity to restore and maintain public order, critical though that is, but of its ability to do so while preserving its own fundamental decency. The temptation now is to seek refuge in simplistic explanations of the horror. The trouble can be attributed partly to racial conflict, partly to unemployment, partly to hostility towards authority in our society. Yet none of these explanations is adequate as a full interpretation. What has been so disturbing in the comments of many of those involved has been the stream of hatred, disaffection and irresponsibility. When the safety of persons and property is so wantonly, and often irrationally, put at risk it is the fabric of the national community that is in jeopardy.

### The obligation of leadership

At such a time there is a particular obligation upon all of us, but especially upon those holding public office, to behave and to speak in a way that is most likely to relieve the hatreds in society and to restore confidence. That is clearly the purpose of the Prime Minister's party political broadcast on Wednesday evening. But it is unlikely to have had the intended effect. She failed to raise the tone of her remarks to the level of events. Not for the first time she was unable to strike the right note when a broad sense of social understanding was required. This was not an occasion for self-justification, for the defence of economic policy — whether it is right or wrong — or for scoring points on the ordinary battleground of politics.

The Prime Minister curiously made no serious attempt to speak to the younger generation, white or black, who make up the vast majority of the rioters. She specifically addressed certain authority figures in our society. She singled out parents and teachers, with good cause, since the decline in the family and the school as strong and positive influences towards responsible behaviour by our youth is a modern development which we all regret. She did not, however, acknowledge the role and responsibility of government, including her Government, as a central source of authority which helps to set the tone within which social relationships are conducted. Her own style, as has been discovered to their pain by, among others, adversaries in her own Cabinet, in Northern Ireland, and in the EEC, is fierce, unyielding and confrontationalist. It has qualities of openness and honesty which attracted many in the last election, especially after years when our leaders seemed prepared to compromise any principle for the sake of a temporary and deludingly quiet life. It is not, however, a style suitable to all situations. Where social and racial tensions are involved, it can too easily aggravate divisions when we need greater harmony.

If Mrs Thatcher failed to rise to the occasion, others have sunk to unworthy levels. Certain newspapers see only black hooligans not white ones; their crude depictions of events have contributed to racial prejudice. Mr Enoch Powell promotes this fantasy; if he would divert a tithe of

his misplaced eloquence to promoting tolerance and understanding Britain would be a better place. And it is anyway nonsense to suggest, as he does, an inescapable connexion between colour and street rioting. The rioters in Toxteth, Amsterdam and Berlin are all white, and so are they in Mr Powell's adopted Ulster.

But it is to Government that people naturally look for an appropriate lead on these times, and it is a depressing fact that this administration has never been strong in its handling of social tensions, whether caused by race, unemployment or any other factor. Too often the attitude has been that it is the job of ministers to apply the right economic policies, and then it is up to everyone else to respond. But it is not so easy as that to run a modern, highly urbanised society. Sometimes, it is true, the Government has been excessively criticized. The Nationality Bill, in particular, has been stigmatized as a piece of racialist legislation. That is unfair. The cause of good race relations will not be served by a soggy liberalism. The broad lines of the Bill — though by no means all the details — have been consistently supported by *The Times*, and there is no reason to change that judgement. Restrictive immigration rules, and widespread public knowledge that these rules are restrictive, are a necessary condition for the general acceptance of the minority communities who are and will remain a part of British society, whether anyone likes it or not.

### The fallacy of integration

But the more that the Government feels it necessary to act so as to ensure that the rules are tight, the more necessary it is for ministers to demonstrate by word and deed that they really are concerned for race relations. With some notable exceptions, such as Mr Whitelaw, the Government has failed in this task. There was Mrs Thatcher's notorious reference before the election to the widespread fear of being "swamped" by immigrants, a fear which she seemed to be not just describing but endorsing. Since the election the Prime Minister in particular has failed to take opportunities to guide the public discussion of race relations as much as possible along constructive lines.

No Minister has shown the understanding and foresight demonstrated in opposition by Mr Peter Walker in his open letter to the Prime Minister Callaghan five years ago and which we reprinted on Wednesday. Nor is it simply a matter of words. No British Government has had an effective strategy for our inner cities. Previous Labour administrations have certainly poured in public money. But it has been too often wasted by unimaginative local authorities in the shackles of inefficient and greedy public service unions. The present Government has seemed less concerned than most about having a strategy. Many of its actions have, in the short term at least, been detrimental to the deprived inner urban areas. The rate support grant system has been modified to the detriment of such localities as Toxteth. Neither party has seriously sought to involve its local citizens in the management and revitalisation of their own local communities. Vigilantes arise only when community life has long failed.

## HIGH STREET GAS

The gas workers could do their own cause no greater harm than by going on strike next week to prevent the gas industry's showrooms being sold off. Nor could the management of the Corporation do itself more harm than appearing to sympathize with them.

If the nationalized industries have gained a poor reputation in the public eye, it is at least in part because they have appeared too often an unholy alliance between management and workforce to preserve the interests of the industry against those of the consumers. If Sir Denis Rooke, Gas Corporation chairman, feels he has not got the public support he might have hoped for in resisting the Government's divestment plans, it is largely because many of his customers have had all too painful a personal experience of the standards of service given by his industry.

Yet Sir Denis — unyielding and obstinate though he may be in the defence of his Corporation's interest — has a point. Gas has special safety aspects. Its appliances cannot simply be sold to be plugged in

by the customer himself like an electric fire or cooker. The gas is inextricably mixed up with the servicing and installation part of the business, at present largely carried on by the state corporation. There is evidence to suggest that, however much the individual customer may complain about the erratic comedies of the service, he would prefer to call on a central organization with public responsibilities to provide this back-up service.

Sir Denis may be right in a sense. The present approach of the government is to judge nationalized industries on narrow cost accountancy. But as public services they have wider responsibilities; indeed this is implicit in the public's criticisms when they fall below expectations. Some customers, it is true, will benefit if gas appliance retailing is left to the forces of competitive large stores; they will shop around and seek good independent gas fitters. But it does not necessarily benefit the ten million customers who pay their bills across the counter of gas showrooms, the customer with an old appliance who needs a

What the riots have revealed is how little most of us understand the difficulties experienced by many people, especially young people in run-down city centres, in Britain today. Britain is a multi-racial society with a good deal of racial hatred, yet little is done to enable people to comprehend and combat the evil of racism. It will not be resisted by preaching integration. That is a fallacy of the sixties. It is unrealistic, it is questionable if it is desirable, and it raises more fear and animosity than it dissipates with its overtones of interracial sex, marriage and a coffee-coloured Britain. Tolerance does not require that every Englishman should have a black man for his neighbour or that every Asian should forget his cultural identity. Instead we must acknowledge and understand the existence of social pluralism in Britain. Our society is composed of a patchwork of different races and cultures making it inevitably less homogeneous than a generation ago. The ideal in this situation is not integration but "equal opportunity, accompanied by cultural diversity" in an atmosphere of mutual tolerance, to use the words of Mr Roy Jenkins.

The Government cannot be expected to resolve such a complex and volatile problem overnight. At a minimum it can be required not to make matters worse by word or deed. More positively it should urgently examine these policy areas which bear upon the racial situation. Youth unemployment, despite the Prime Minister's protestations, must be of importance: we still await Mr Prior's long-trailed proposals. The Government might also reconsider its separate but related decisions to reduce provision for training and further education. Every place removed from this sector is another young unemployed to join in street violence.

### The obligation on us all

Measures can also be taken at little or no cost to improve the career prospects of coloured employees. Government contracts are an under-used weapon against discrimination. One of the most effective measures in the USA has been to promote qualified coloureds to positions of obvious authority — in the army, the police and above all the public service — so that the coloured community can identify with those who take decisions as well as those at the receiving end. In Britain the upper ranks of the civil service, local authorities, the military, the police, teaching (and journalism) are almost entirely white. The Government could make an immediate start by asking the public service actively to identify coloured employees suitable for promotion to high office. Citizens who share in all facets and privileges in a society are more likely to respect its authorities and its way of life.

In the end there is a limit to what any enlightened government can do about racial hatred. The sickness lies in the minds of individuals and it is individuals who must resist it in themselves and in others, rejecting the easy prejudices of daily life. This is a moral case and a practical one as well for we all have a vested interest in living harmoniously together. Everybody who deals momentarily in the soiled coin of prejudice conspires at the poisoning of our society.

part which no high volume retailer can be expected to keep, and those who worry about safety standards. Nor will it assist British manufacturers in need of a secure home market.

The important questions that should be asked about the gas industry are about its overall structure. Is it possible to run a highly centralized gas industry which covers every aspect of the business from North Sea exploration to appliance retailing? The case for reforming this structure is strong and should be debated. The fundamental question about its selling and service side is how it can be made to operate more competitively, with effective pressures to perform better. In what naturally tends to be a monopoly industry in any country.

Mrs Oppenheim's move is in this sense an irrelevance, and one that might be as damaging to the consumer as to employees in the industry. By phasing the disposal over five years she has given time for reconsideration. The unions and gas management should use that time constructively. By assaulting the customer in the apparent interest of their own job security they confirm the case against themselves.

## Breeding grounds for violence

From Professor Gordon Cherry

Sir, The events of Liverpool Toxteth amply illustrate the fundamental socio-economic changes which are currently taking place in metropolitan cities. From the mid 1960s onwards important trends of decentralization have been observed whereby the inner cities have emerged as problem areas of economic collapse, social deprivation and environmental decay. The 1981 census results confirm the extent of population drift to suburban and rural areas, and high unemployment rates in the inner city point to the degree of economic contraction.

These problems are going to be with us for the rest of the century and we should not delude ourselves into thinking that recovery from recession or the adoption of short term palliatives which attack the symptoms of the problems rather than the root causes will achieve very much.

Millions of words have been spent over the last decade saying just these things, and occasionally politicians (notably Peter Walker in the early 1970s and Peter Shore with his Inner Urban Areas Act 1978) have got the message. But yet we have not seen when violence finally erupts.

The issue really is one of community despair at perceived deprivation, the loss of life chances through poor housing and lack of jobs and the absence of any sense of community or education. Social discipline having broken down, violence on the streets is a response by communities for whom enough is enough.

Are politicians really capable of committing themselves long term to principles of environmental recovery and economic and social regeneration? It is not strange that at the very time when the manifest complexity of the metropolitan city is being recognised, we turn our backs on the social sciences (economics, sociology, social administration and planning), disciplines which offer greater understanding and problem solving in our cities. Yours faithfully, GORDON CHERRY, 20 Blackthorne Close, Solihull, West Midlands, July 8.

From Mr Tony Baldwin  
Sir, As a former police officer once involved in "riots" I offer the following thoughts on the recent disturbances, albeit from the safe distance of the legal establishment.

1. Public disorder can be a stimulating and releasing part of police work which often involves long periods of inactivity and boredom.
2. Extremely strong group psychological forces can act in the

## Strategy for training

From the President of the Association of Principals of Further Education

Sir, This association is rather alarmed at the implications of the Employment and Training Bill which is now in the House of Lords. The avowed intention of this proposed legislation is to allow the Secretary of State to extend industry's reliance on voluntary arrangements for training needs cannot be done by transferring the operating costs of training from Government funding to industrial financing and abolishing many, if not all, of the industrial training boards. The Secretary of State will have the power to close training boards which have been doing a good service to the contrary from his professionals in the Manpower Services Commission.

Your readers will recall that the 1964 Industrial Training Act was introduced because the government of the day recognised that the existing system of training could not be left to the voluntary provision of industry. It is our view that, to abandon the present ITB infrastructure and revert to voluntary arrangements, rather than devise an improved system more able to meet national training needs, is to be considered to be a rational action.

The consultative document, *A New Training Initiative*, issued in May by the Manpower Services Commission, makes it clear that there is an urgent need to develop a new system of training. We believe that this would be impossible through any form of voluntary arrangement. Yours truly, L. K. STREET, Principal's Office, East Herts College, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, July 3.

## The railway sandwich

From Mr N. B. Clayton

Sir, Railway food will probably not be missed because of its quality but its convenience merely, and perhaps as a traditional target for abuse which is now established as national leading article, July 4. This Trollope in the novel *He Knew He Was Right*.

"We are often told in our newspapers that England is disgraced by this and that; by the unreasonableness of our army, by the inefficiency of our navy, by the irrationality of our laws, by the immobility of our prejudices, and what not, but the real disgrace of England is the railway sandwich which whistles, spatters, fair enough outside, but so messy poor and spiritless within, such a thing of shreds and parings, such a dab of food, telling us that the poor bones whence it was scraped had been made utterly bare before it was sent into the kitchen for the soup pot. In France one does not eat the railway stations..." That is 1868: can there be an earlier record? And what about conservation of our national heritage? If railway stations can be

police particularly at such public disorder.

3. The more violent and bewildering the disorder the greater the tendency of the police to see themselves as the last defence, which can lead to a "mission" like fervour and isolation from the very community they are appointed to protect.

4. Such tendency as in 3 can lead to the use of extra-legal means by the police to protect the establishment (including inquiring judges and barristers) and the sincere belief that those means are justified for a wide variety of reasons.

5. The police may feel let down by the establishment they are appointed to protect and develop a "ghetto" mentality of their own, which infinitely complicates the task of unravelling the causes of public disorders.

6. It is a sophisticated task for any senior police officer in charge of operations at large-scale public disorder to prevent and detect crime and see the wider social implications of orders he may issue. The less well the officer knows the area the more difficult his job will be.

7. If the police are seen as an extension of central government by those disturbing the peace, then the present economic policies of the government have important implications for the police which will not be mitigated by the use of military-style equipment (such equipment may worsen the position of the police in the longer term).

8. Such dilemmas for the police as arise from the situation in 7 can lead back to 3 and a continuing and deteriorating spiral.

9. The characteristics of this sad situation are the alienation of a government with a harsh economic and social policy from its people, the use of an isolated police force to control the ugly manifestations of long and short-term deprivation, and the complete lack of confidence of minorities (including white unemployed) and their lot will significantly improve in the short term. Yours faithfully, TONY BALDWIN, Cannon Lodge, Ferry Road, Bray, Berkshire

From Mrs Marian Sugden  
Sir, I recall the words of Sir Stanley Holmes, one-time Clerk to the City of Liverpool, speaking at a degree day dinner at the university there, ten years ago, when he said he could not believe that all the crime, violence and vandalism experienced then was the work of happy, well-housed people with good jobs.

Yours truly, MARIAN SUGDEN, Trinity Hall, Cambridge, July 8.

## Cut in music sales

From the Secretary of the Music Publishers' Association

Sir, The Music Publishers' Association, in common with many others, deplores the recently announced Government plans to close the BBC Transmission Service and strongly urges those responsible to reconsider this decision. The demise of this department which is responsible for selling the finest British musical radio programmes around the world would be a major loss both artistically and commercially to the national interest.

Many of our composers and performers are the envy of the rest of the world, and at a time when music is being increasingly neglected at home it is not other than folly to prevent those abroad from hearing and appreciating the very best of British music and musicians. We are justifiably proud of the high musical standards set in Great Britain and the abolition of the Transmission Service if implemented would represent a severe restriction on the musical talent of this country, being heard overseas.

Commercially, too, it cannot be sensible to deprive the country of a valuable area of foreign exchange income which is derived from sales of music programmes to foreign broadcasters. Quite apart from those who would be directly affected through loss of employment, the cuts would cause a great deal of hardship to British composers whose earnings would be reduced by loss of performing rights fees from foreign broadcasts and from resulting public performances of their works. Yours faithfully, PETER DADSWELL, Secretary, The Music Publishers' Association, 103 Kingsway, WC2, July 7.

"listed" as ancient monuments should not this protection be extended to include items on BR menus, whether kippers or the railway sandwich?

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS CLAYTON, The Mill House, Little Mill Lane, Basingstoke, Hampshire, July 4.

## Doctors' hours

From Mrs Brenda Bowcock

Sir, Is it not surprising that lorry drivers and airline pilots are restricted in their working hours because of possible danger to human life, yet hospital doctors can have a full day's duty and still be expected to work much of the night and operate the following day?

Yours faithfully, BRENDA BOWCOCK, Manor Farm, Park Lane, Eton, Stoke-on-Trent, July 7.

## Universities and economic growth

From Professor Harold Perkin

Sir, You say in your leader of July 3, "Universities under the knife". It cannot be demonstrated that a large university sector, even higher education as a whole, makes a country more competitive. You are right: it cannot be demonstrated that a plentiful supply of any necessary resource, new materials, capital or willing labour, makes a country more competitive, for the simple reason that no successful country would be foolish enough to try to prove such a statement against itself. In the modern world of high technology and — a point easily forgotten — complex and delicate human organization, ideas more than land, capital and labour are the primary factor in the production of wealth, since products embodying obsolete ideas are as unsaleable as sinking fish. Universities exist to produce both ideas and the people to apply them. If Britain fails to employ such people productively, while other countries succeed, that is not the fault of our universities which, as will be shown, can compete with the best in the world.

What can be demonstrated is that all those countries which have overtaken this first industrial nation in gross domestic product and in living standards per head overtook us first in the size of their higher education systems. The United States, Canada, Scandinavia, the major EEC countries and, above all, Japan all put higher education high on the list of prerequisites for economic growth. To take the most recent and spectacularly successful, Japan raised her real gross domestic product per head fourfold, from an index (1970 = 100) of 40 to 128, while Britain raised hers by a mere 45 per cent, from 78 to 113. At the same time Japan decisively overtook us in living standards per head, with a rise in per capita national income (at current prices) from \$417 to \$4,478 as against Britain's increase from \$1,261 to \$3,530.

A correlation is not a cause, of course, and higher education is not the only factor in Japan's success, but the Japanese themselves give it the highest importance in their past and future economic development. (See the Report of the Second Hiroshima International Seminar on Higher Education, Higher Education, for

the 1980s, Hiroshima University, 1980.) It is all the more astounding, therefore, that neither the government nor the press, in gloating over the cuts in our higher education sector, should have noted that it is already the smallest per head of population in the developed world. Only its high quality and superior efficiency — we produce graduates comparable with the best anywhere in three years instead of four or five and with wastage rates of around 10 per cent instead of 50 per cent or more — have enabled us to maintain our leading place in the international academic community.

According to a study by my friend Professor Akira Arimoto of Osaka Kyokko University, Britain stands second only to Sweden in the number of Nobel laureates per head of population with twice the proportion of the United States, in any international comparison. British academics can hold their heads high. I wonder whether the same can still be said for British politicians, British civil servants or British managers?

By cutting university grants Mrs Thatcher's Government is mortgaging its future economic growth. If de-industrialization, as it would seem from their actions, is their aim, there is no quicker road to it than to reduce our only permanently renewable resource, the innovative skills of our young people. A third-world level of higher education will rapidly produce a third-world standard of living.

One further point: it has not escaped your notice Sir, that the London Business School is the only university institution scheduled for an increase in University Grants Committee grant (*Times*, July 3). Who can accuse Mrs Thatcher of ingratitude to her friends? Since Professor Alan Budd and his team are now almost the only academic economists forecasting success for her strategy, (*Sunday Times*, July 28) should not the funding of the London Business School be transferred from the UGC to the Conservative Central Office? This would save £1.5 million per annum by 1983/84 towards paying for the redundancies of their colleagues which their and her policies are creating.

Yours faithfully, HAROLD PERKIN, Past President, Association of University Teachers, University of Lancaster, Furness College, Bailrigg, Lancaster, July 7.

## New look at planning

From the Chairman of the Council for the Protection of Rural England

Sir, The Stansfeld airport proposal would change for all time such an immense tract of valued English countryside that it really is inconceivable it could ever go ahead. Sir Colin Buchanan calls (June 22) for the scheme to be dropped and for the aviation industry to be urged instead by its political masters to develop in directions that will not trigger the intractable environmental and political conflicts which present plans make inevitable. Sir Colin is surely right.

What would such a change of approach entail? It is hard to say precisely, but the problem is hardly without precedent. Take, recent developments in the water supply industry, for example. There too is an industry whose massive supply schemes (led, we were always told, by greater consumer demands) have historically attracted implacable opposition. But recent indications, including the Environment Minister's admirable landmark decision last year not to permit a reservoir at Broad Oak, Canterbury, make the prospects for future such schemes distinctly uncertain.

The water authorities' response to their new circumstances shows promise. Fresh approaches are gaining ground, which 10 years ago would have seemed inconceivable. Unobtrusive demand management, better leakage control, more domestic metering, promotion of increasingly water-efficient appliances (WCs, taps etc.) — are gaining momentum.

Water supply schemes less inflexible and obtrusive than new above-ground storage reservoirs are gaining favour — not universally, of course, but there are signs in the industry of a growing recognition that it is more sensible to plan strategically to avoid pitched battles, which (like the British Airports Authority) the industry is increasingly likely to lose. Instead, ways of sidestepping such confrontations are being built into long-range plans.

One way or another the Stansfeld proposal is likely to teach the aviation (and tourism) industries a similar lesson. Either they can learn now and withdraw gracefully, or they can persist with the scheme, only to discover at the end of it all that a massive new airport is no longer a sensible or acceptable proposition in England's countryside. The prudent course would seem to be to see their considerable combined ingenuities to work immediately on dissolving the problem, as Sir Colin has recommended.

Will it be possible to find ways of meeting future passenger "demands" without a major new airport in the South-east? That surely is the wrong question. Better to ask instead how the industries can adjust their long-range strategic planning, their future research and development policies to work within the new political realities they now face.

In a situation like this, as the water industry is beginning to find, necessity is the mother of invention. Yours faithfully, ROLAND WADE, 4 Hobart Place, June 24.

Times an article by John Higgins about St Louis. In my memory the words of the old St Louis chant are as follows:

First in booze, first in shoes, and last in the American league.

There may be varying versions of the third line of this sing-song chant, but there is no possibility that there are varying locations for the "glorious brick home of Budweiser and Michelob". This structure has always been on the banks of the Mississippi River and not on the banks of the Missouri. Perhaps your correspondent has confused the "muddy waters" with the "Father of waters".

Very truly yours, Roger Mercurio, CP, Provincial Superior, Congregation of the Passion, 5700 North Harlem Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60631, USA, June 30.

Flight of fancy  
From Mr N. E. Schooling  
Sir, What a delightful coincidence that the first solar-powered aircraft to fly the Channel (report, July 8) was piloted by Mr Patek, whose name, in Czech, means a little bird!

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, NEVILLE E. SCHOOLING, Naval & Military Club, 94 Piccadilly, W1, July 8.

Spirit of St Louis  
From the Very Reverend Roger Mercurio, CP  
Sir, As a native of St Louis, Missouri, I was quite pleased on my recent visit to your city to read in the June 25 issue of *The*







THE ARTS

Cinema

More proof that money does not bring happiness

The Aviator's Wife, or You Cannot Think of Nothing (A)

Academy 1

Altered States (X)

Warner West End

This is Elvis (A)

Gate 3, Camden Town

Practically every week brings new confirmation of the thesis — self-evident to everyone it seems — that the people who actually finance films that cinema is made with talent, not with money. The more grandiose ambitions of Lord Lew have been sadly dashed, while a comparatively low budget production, *The Long Good Friday*, turned out to be one of the best things his film kingdom produced. The distributors puzzle what to do with the forty million dollar *Heaven's Gate*, and EMI has reportedly its own problems in finishing off John Schlesinger's thirty million dollar *Henry Tomlinson*. Meanwhile in London one of the top box-office favourites is *Gregory's Girl*, made with a minuscule budget (not one per cent of these) provided by Scottish Television and the National Film Finance Corporation.

This week's fresh fuel for the argument is Eric Rohmer's *The Aviator's Wife* (*La Femme de l'aviateur*), which in terms of cost must be in much the same league as *Gregory's Girl* and is as wholly satisfying an entertainment as any to be found in London. A film of extreme formal simplicity — it is really composed of a round dozen scenes, mostly simple dialogues — it demonstrates conclusively that spectacle is in no way indispensable to cinematic pleasure.

Rohmer called his previous cycle of films, which included *Ma Nuit chez Maud* and *Le Genou de Claire*, "contes moraux". *The Aviator's Wife* continues the series titled overall "comedies et proverbes", a homage to de Mautet, whose works were published under this collective title. The allusion is relevant to the formal precision and the teasing humour of *The Aviator's Wife*, as well as to the fact that the new series of films will "deal with characters who do not tend to analyse and recount their own actions (as in the 'contes moraux'), but who try to understand — often very unsuccessfully — external realities".

The story is built with geometric symmetry. François is 20; Anne is 25; Lucie is 15. As François explains with a certain sort of portentous discovery, "I am exactly between you". Everyone is attracted to two people at the same time. François is in the course of an affair with



Lucie, entering all too eagerly in François's game of detection: Anne-Laure Meury with Philippe Marlaud

Anne (which is rather frustrated since she works days and he works nights, as a post office sorter) but also discovers an interest in Lucie whom he meets by chance in the Buzet-Chaumont. Lucie lightly leads him on; but she has her own boyfriend, Anne has still a yearning for her old flame, the aviator. The aviator loves his wife. No doubt the aviator's wife is in love with someone else as well.

And out of this premise of the divergences and the easy diversion of emotional attractions, together with a few innocent dramatic devices like letters, coincidences, chance meetings, the play is made. Rohmer loves to hook us with transparent dramatic tricks, like having François, who has just come from the night shift, doze off to sleep at crucial moments in the plot, to keep us in will-he-won't-be suspense. (Will he or won't he, for instance, wake up in time to arrive at Anne's apartment at the right moment to see the aviator leaving, and so leap to quite the wrong conclusions?)

The film exerts a dual charm of artifice and reality. It all takes place in a very real Paris, closely and affectionately observed. The story is a black and white sort of office; the café; Anne's minuscule apartment under the eaves which, the aviator critically notes, would be much better if it had a kitchen, but

then, she does not really need one. The characters are real and living and irresistibly likable — even Anne (Marie Rivière) — cross, selfish, capricious as she tends to be in her self-absorbed unhappiness and indecision over her love life. François (Philippe Marlaud) complains (when Anne has put him about over some arrangement with a plumber) that he is too kind; and so he is, in fact, with his sweet, catlike face and shakable, dog-like devotion. The 17-year-old Anne-Laure Meury plays the enchanting 15-year-old Lucie, dangerously unpredictable, entering all too eagerly into François's game of detection as he rather pointlessly trails the unwitting aviator across the city.

Alternately each comforts or torments the other with white lies. Anne refuses to ally François's quite unjustified suspicions of a rendezvous with the aviator. Lucie strenuously denies any love interest in her life: the same night François sees her in the arms of a boyfriend. It is when François is smilingly deceiving Anne, by not revealing to her that she speaks the words which provide the secondary title of the film. She suspiciously challenges him to tell her what he is thinking. He tells her he is thinking nothing. "You cannot think of nothing," she snaps. With

Rohmer's creatures you truly feel in the presence not of actors acting, but of people thinking. It is ironic that Ken Russell's best film for a long time should be a project which he did not himself initiate. The director of *Altered States* was originally intended to be Arthur Penn; and it was only after he had left the film, along with the original special effects designer, and the project had transferred from one company to another, that Ken Russell took it on.

He has, with commendable ruthlessness, made the thing his own. The script is by Paddy Chayevsky, from his own novel, but Chayevsky in the outcome chose to remove his name from the film: the writer is now credited as "Sidney Aaron". Russell makes his directorial debut with this film. He has his actors read through the usual pseudo-scientific jargon of science-fiction horror at such a rate that few words are distinguishable. To make sure, he will overlay loud music, fill the players' mouths with food, or, in the case of the two comic-relief scientists, have them both talk at the same time.

The technical marvels of the film sound like the rest. Evidently there is a lot to be said for this sound system when it comes to extreme volume or curious pitch, but on the evidence of this film it does not cope so well with the human

voice. Only one word in six is identifiable as reassurance that the tapes played backwards. But neither script nor story is of prime importance to Russell's purposes. Despite an elaborate historical-scientific account of the indictment of altered states by means of isolation tanks and hallucinogenic drugs, that is, not the drugs by the film's publicists, Chayevsky's story is strictly updated Jekyll and Hyde. Dr. Jessup (William Hurt) carries his experiments in altering his states to a point at which he physically regresses to a Pleistocene ape-man, who goes muzzling about the city zoo, and thereafter to still stranger, earlier forms of life. Only the all-conquering power of love in the end averts ultimate disaster.

The cynically self-dramatised, with a bare-knuckled clinical reveals Russell's dismissal of the story as simply a not-too-necessary starting point for a dazzling display of psychobabble and unprecendented visual adventures. He has made use of every possible technical device — macro-photography, lasers, time-lapse photography, special effects work — to achieve wild and wonderful images. Fish fly through lurid clouds, a nine-eyed lamb hangs on the crucifix, the hero's transformations are extraordinary elec-

tronic phenomena. The film creates its own new world of light and colour and shattering noise. The visual ambitions and effects in previous Russell films have often seemed effortful and affected. Here the phenomena seem genuinely self-generating, authentic, psychedelic surrealism. As an abstract creation, an experience rather than a narrative, *Altered States* offers something that is new, brilliant and exciting.

Even for someone without a particular prior interest in the subject, this is a film worth produced and directed by Malcolm Le and Andrew Solt, is a remarkable essay in cinematographic biography. From the moment of his first successes, Elvis Presley seems always to have been under the eye of cameras of one sort or another, telecasting, home movies, newsreels, documentaries, his own feature films. For the first years of a somewhat down-at-heel Tennessee boyhood, during which black friends introduced the young Presley to Negro music, the film relies on rather discreet reconstruction, with scenes after that the story can be entirely told in direct, factual images, linked by a narrative put into the first persons of Elvis and the main figures in his life, though read by actors.

He emerges as an irresistibly likeable and ultimately tragic figure. His rise to success was in fact (perhaps because of) his assaults on his corrupting influence upon the youth of America. Elvis's dual offence was to use the same kind of pelvic movements as had long been a staple of the burlesque formers and to reveal his feeling for Negro music, his hardest critics, as seen in the film, tend to be unashamed racists (with names that must have been created by W. C. Fields, like Ambrose Whipple), outraged that a white boy should sing this "nigger style".

Defiantly, he cleaned up his act and image, and went off loyally to fulfil his army service, under an absurd media limelight. After serving his full time he came back, to escalating fame and fortune. "When he started", cracks Bob Hope with more shrewdness than charity, "he couldn't spell Tennessee. Now he owns it". Elvis was not the first or last to succumb under the strain of success. Onstage he could seem happy and fulfilled. His private life was distorted by the glare of publicity. The last years seem to have been numbed with narcotics and the "deliberate" of sheer boredom. Among the extraordinary documents in coverage of one of the very last concerts. He is guided to the stage, a prose, limbered, dazed and weary. He coughs the words of one song, reads another off a paper. Yet even at this extreme the thrill of responding to an audience could still achieve a brief revival.

David Robinson

Opera

Miniature scoring in radiant bloom

Ariadne auf Naxos

Glyndebourne

Unaccountably Glyndebourne have waited nine years before reviving again their production of the Strauss opera most suited to this milieu; set in a great hall, the opera is in manner but conversational in tone, modest in length and resources, deferentially giving an excuse for a long summer interval after the Prologue and even providing a cue for an end to the evening's entertainment in fireworks, banging off on all sides the latter part of the second act. On Wednesday *Ariadne auf Naxos* finally returned to Sussex, with the staging spruced up for the occasion by the original producer, John Copley.

There is only one survivor from the 1972 cast, Alexander Oliver's Dancing Master, who has a more elegant figure than before, nearly observed in voice and gesture. He is joined in the Prologue by a cast of similarly vital, fully developed characters. The Composer, Maria Ewing, who has at this first attempt made the part her own.

With lips parted in readiness for protest or passion, the actress, in perfect, perfect, perfect, living more intensely than the rest. She never seems to be holding anything back, yet when the music calls for it, in the latter part of the second act, her voice rises to ringing strength without losing its luscious liquid youth.

Here too it is marvellous to have a soprano as good as Gloria Rolando, who sings for the first time in Europe. Here is a genuine alternative view to that of the Composer, and in the main act she realises her dream. She is the playful mistress of her crew of clowns, cleverly modelled on the Marx Brothers, but she is also attracted to Ariadne by sympathy and respect, and not just perfunctory indifference to her plight.

None of this would be



Maria Ewing: liquid youth

possible if she did not retain a remarkable capacity for expression in her voice when singing high above the stage. She is a person, not a toy, but she well knows that her music is also a flirtation with the audience, who responded to her with huge enthusiasm. It would have needed a quite extraordinary Ariadne to keep pace with this Zerbina, and perhaps the role does not make that possible. Helena Dörs, at least in calm and stately manner until the arrival of Bacchus (forcefully acted and well sung by Dennis Bailey) reveals in her a lovely range from trembling doubt to exultant affirmation. Unfortunately it is just at this point that the production, otherwise so sensitive, begins to go mad and trundle the scenery about. The music, of course, contains all the necessary transformation, particularly when it is being played with such resplendent mastery as Simon Rattle draws from the London Philharmonic.

For once the miniature scoring does not sound at all like an economy but rather an extension into golden realms of fine-tuned harmony and instrumental virtuosity. A very great deal more than that as well.

Paul Griffiths

Alessandro

Assembly Rooms, Chichester

Handel's *Alessandro* the Great opera shows that hero in a less than heroic light: vainly proclaiming himself son of Jove, suspecting conspiracy among his loyal supporters, behaving in a manner as unheroic as that of a clown. Paolo Rolli, supplies situations enough for the usual variety of arias, but with only the slenderest thread of continuity; he was handicapped by the need to sing precisely equal roles for two leading ladies — for this was the first opera in which the established soprano Francesca Cuzzoni, was to her chagrin joined by Faustina Bordoni, and it had to be clear to everyone that neither donna was to be reckoned prima.

Later Handel found better ways of coping with this situation, for example in *Admetus*, with its searchingly contrasted characterisation of Alcestis and Antigone. Here one is a Persian princess, the other a Scythian princess, and both love him, but only one can win him, and that privilege went to the new singer (as Roxana, the Persian), but not before the two have had exactly the same number of arias and duets. Scornfully, Handel is almost to the point of making his music back at him, and in the finale, where a pair of duets for each Alexander leads directly into the final ensemble, Handel uses an unusually strong unified conclusion.

In its day (1726) the opera was esteemed less for such refinements than for its spectacular scenes, like the opening battle, which allegedly could be heard at Charing Cross from Handel's theatre in the Haymarket (where *Alessandro* now plays). Opera 70's performance

at Chichester did not disturb the New at Portsmouth. This was the first modern staging of *Alessandro* in Britain (an excellent concert performance was done in the English Bach Festival at Oxford in 1960, with Charles Mackerras). This enterprising company did it modestly but intelligently. Alan Saunders had the stage sport a pair of cut-out statues, and a rear opening with sliding panels through which scenery projections could intermittently be seen, all decked with cherubs, clouds and canopies in plum-coloured paint. (Elizabeth Masters' costumes, however, seemed rather diverse, classical, medieval, exotic eastern all bewildering the eye.)

The work was given virtually complete (just three arias omitted), with plenty of repeats but little ornamentation, and in a new, free, mostly stylish English translation by David Osmond-Smith. It was in principle good to have the orchestra (the Concert of Twelve, 13 baroque strings, three woodwind, three brass, and three harpsichord, by Ian Graham-Jones, but the players are not quite ready for that — there were few decisive rhythmic cues, and the tempo was unevenly judged and held.

Michael Waite, who sang the bass part of Clinus, produced in relaxed fashion, a fittingly relaxed performance. His vocal characterisation was without sense of period, and react insufficiently to events. Probably it was a mistake to treat Roxana as slave girl, little more than princess, but Margaret Southwell sang Faustina's music with some charm in her bright and musical voice, placing the lines nicely and showing touches of wit. Her rival, Lisa, an Australian, evinced some pleasing taste, but sometimes let both pitch and interest flag. Alexander, the Senesino role, was spiritedly done by Ann Hampard, although her vocal range was not quite the right, firm sound for a castrato part and sang vigorously, accurately and often subtly.

Stanley Sadie

Concert

Harmony all round

Polychoral music

St Paul's/Radio 3

Tallis's 40-part motet *Spem in alium* for eight choirs of five voices each, has long been one of the acknowledged glories of Tudor church music, though in the nature of things it is not often sung. Even the *New Grove* claims it as without musical precedent, but recent correspondence in *Musical Times* suggests that Tallis wrote it to write to the Duke of Norfolk to write to, in rivalry with the 40-part motet *Ecce beatam lucem* by Alessandro Striggio senior, who visited Queen Elizabeth I's court in 1567.

Striggio's piece seems to have been sung at the time, but not here since those days (*New Grove* does discuss it, under the composer's entry). For the City of London Festival, conducted on Wednesday by St Paul's, Roger Norrington had the bright idea of performing both works "in the round" beneath the dome, with his Schütz Choir, the Philip Jones Brass Ensemble, and London Baroque Players, together with other polychoral pieces by Schütz.

The 40 singers stood in a broken circle around Norrington and a fortunate batch of listeners who could experience the flow of music clockwise, anti-clockwise, and all at once. The two motets are very different, plain choirs in the first, and a black and white antiphonal combinations (the modern Italian manner), with an access of marvellous harmony for "O melior nectur" in Striggio's old-fashioned Flemish contrapuntal manner, which sounds more dramatic to the modern intellectual ear, though there are grand bursts of harmony, too.

To hear them both in the same concert was a momentous treat — I only hope listeners elsewhere in the cathedral, listening to the radio broadcast, caught something of the swirling circular effect: they will be broadcast together again on July 25, as part of the BBC's Royal Wedding celebrations. Norrington begins, I guess, since the link between them is a hot musical property just now, and record companies are sure to be interested. With an apparent *plus ultra*, Schütz's *Veni, sancte spiritus* for four separately disposed choirs of voices and instruments, a knock-out of antiphonal sonority in St Paul's; and he ended, equally grandly, with another antiphonal thriller, *Es erhub sich ein Streit*.

William Mann

Theatre

English equation of privilege and style

The Mitford Girls

Chichester

Caryl Churchill and Ned Sherrin's "musical memoir" of the six daughters of Lord Redesdale is a funny, superficial, and class-bound piece of work, but on its own terms, it cannot be faulted. The authors take their stand on the deeply English equation between privilege and style. Nothing also counts. Browne may trigger at the Mitford voice, but never mind, it has style. Jessica may have been a "ballroom communist" and Unit a crony of the Nazis; but the important thing is that they brought English style to the outbreak of war.

For the same reason, there is no attempt to characterise the girls in any detail. What was most interesting about them was the stylistic armour-plating with which they faced the world. The show is a barely dramatized account of their lives from childhood to the end of the 1930s, drawn from their own writings so as to preclude any independent point of view. There is not even much sense of the world changing around them. Their world consists of a ballroom floor, done by Stella White, painted by a black and white artist, which periodically shrinks into Lord Redesdale's study or the "Honeys" cupboard, but which never admits the contaminating presence of the unprivileged.

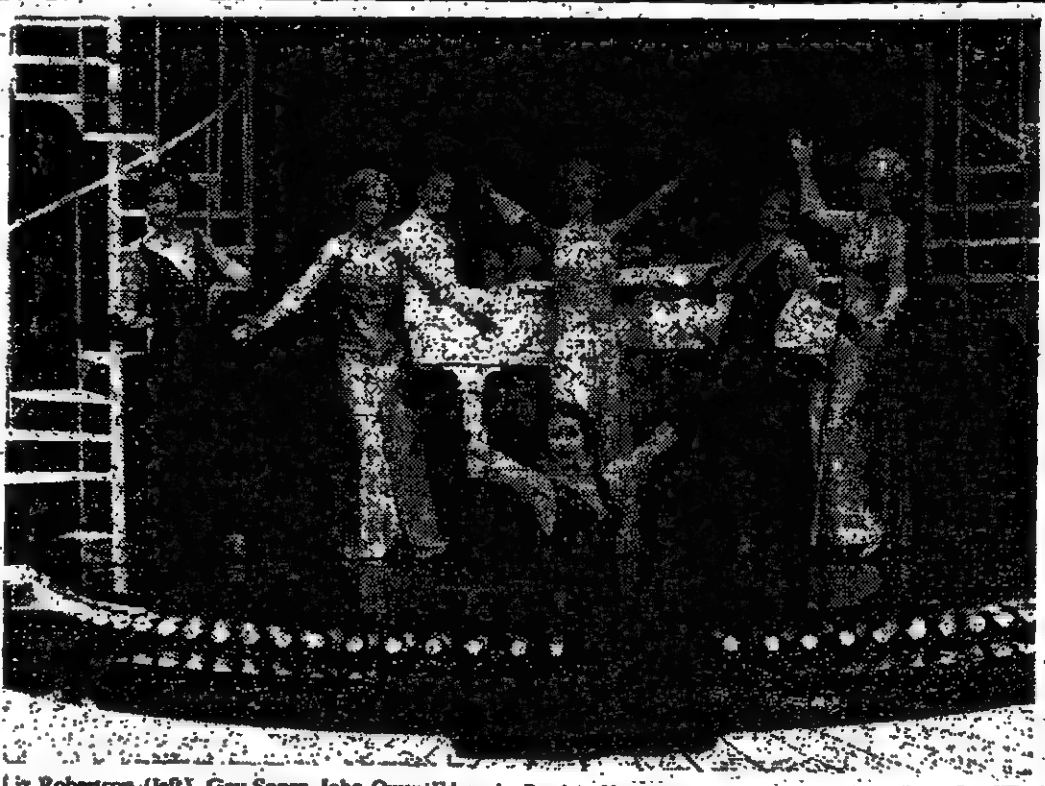
Hitler puts in a brief appearance to puff the Bayreuth

Pierrefal. Jessica elopes to Spain with Desmond, Royce, but the music concern on stage is whether she will be capable of looking after her own underwear.

Played elsewhere, no doubt the show would be inaudible for the smashing of socialist teeth, but if the style is to be kept, it is all in the doing. The girls did see the world from this vantage point; and what Patrick Garland's production demonstrates is how their experiences may trigger at the Mitford voice, but never mind, it has style. Jessica may have been a "ballroom communist" and Unit a crony of the Nazis; but the important thing is that they brought English style to the outbreak of war.

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Hitler puts in a brief appearance to puff the Bayreuth



Liz Robertson (left), Gay Soper, John Owen Edwards, Patricia Hodge (below), Patricia Michael, Julia Sutton, Colette Gleeson

counterpart to the accompanying social code. "Are things tremendously bad?" Nancy asks briskly when her unemployed husband, Peter Rodd, has been dismissed. And Rodd himself, for ever abandoning half-written books and deciding that there are only 10,000 words in the subject of world famine, ends the rest. Evidently there is a lot to be said for this sound system when it comes to extreme volume or curious pitch, but on the evidence of this film it does not cope so well with the human

strictly limited people and persuading you to find them entertaining and even likable in spite of their political opinions and toby-toby. Patricia Hodge, in this sense, carries the main weight. Nancy and as the girl's mother. There is also good doubling by Julia Sutton as Pamela and the long-suffering Nancy; and two well-contrasted juniors by Gay Soper and Patricia Michael. Alone amid the female company, Oz Clarke holds the fort as the permanently enraged Lord Redesdale and a string of increasingly unsuitable suitors.

Irving Wardle

wading about in the news' native waters. For the first two or three, the splashing is a serious thing, particularly when Germaine Greer and Russell Harty preside over a feminist demonstration of the "method of newt preservation". But except for the water, and the transformation of public seating into Parliament and the royal box at the Palladium, the events remain as distanced as they would in a genuine television collage of the story. Despite some marvellous impersonations from the company, brought to Riverside Studios from the Liverpool Everyman production, and some, admittedly few, outrageously tasteless scenes featuring the heads of state and church, there is at times the cumulative television effect it would seem entirely reasonable to leave your seat and raid the refrigerator.

Mr Campbell and Mr Murray could probably offer a more liberal *War with the News* in the future. It could conceivably be better. It would probably lack the same inspiration, so the present version which is genuine old-fashioned satire, played by a clever team of actors, which confronts the establishment of opinion-makers and politicians with the Apocalypse. It suggests that humanity's last survivors will be Malcolm Moggie and Robin Day.

Ned Chaillet

Television

Bellamy's Backyard Safari

BBC 1

It is not every television presenter, however, much we might wish it, who is prepared to be caught fast in artificial slugslime just to further our knowledge, but David Bellamy's botanical enthusiasm is such that he would probably not jib at the real thing. Last night he led as down the garden path and in a way, up it at the same time, in the first of his four-part series, *Bellamy's Backyard Safari*, to demonstrate that we all have our own personal school of evolution close at hand.

He was specially miniaturized for the occasion so that he could look slugs, spiders and other below-ground specimens in the eye and, presumably, make us too fascinated to say "Yuk" and switch off. His voice, however, retained its full range of decibels which, as Professor Bellamy's case — and professor he now is — is considerable. This must have made him, comparatively speaking, a somewhat noisy and unwelcome intruder below ground, but no matter, this Gulliver-like visitation was technically brilliant and the treasury of his non-botanists might call them, probably realize that he does it for love. I was not quite sure where the evolutionary part came in though doubtless all will be made clear. Certainly the close-up photography by London Scientific Film, and the visual effects achieved at what is said

to be "huge cost" by the production team, marked some kind of evolution in presentation. It was also apparent that David Bellamy's zest for exploration by microscope is spreading among cameramen. As the programme is sensibly scheduled at 6.50 pm, younger viewers are likely to benefit in knowledge and scientific curiosity. After all, these are the kind of tricks they are bombarded with by film-makers with less worthy intentions.

My own botanical knowledge is sadly microscopic and what I thought I had took something of a beating. For instance, I have always regarded the ladybird as a charming thing, christened "bird of Our Lady" because it did such a good job mopping up the pestiferous greenfly. Professor Bellamy called it "a vicious carnivore" but then, he explained, "Down here" — he was down a crack in the path at the time — "everything hunts everything else". Not so much different above ground really. We have yet to see this five-millimetre but still larger-than-life Bellamy, tackling the lawn, taking the plunge in the greenhouse gutter and garden pond, airborne among the spores and pollen grains, and caught fast in a spider's web. No doubt with one bound he will be free, having away in the T-shirt and shorts that must be a throwback to his days as a deck-chair attendant. All irresistible stuff, though some viewers may be persuaded by his revelations to take another look at those slugs in garden path and backyard — and fill them with cement.

Dennis Hackett

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## Racing

## Sharlie's Wimpy is the colt that bears the print of a winner

By Michael Phillips  
Racing Correspondent

Anything coming so soon after an excellent feat of racing such as the one we have just enjoyed at Newmarket would usually be an anticlimax. However, there is an opportunity today to see one of the two-year-olds in action at Lingfield Park and another at York. Paul Cole is adamant that he is training a fast colt in Sharlie's Wimpy, who may well be the winner of the Litho-Tech Colour Printers Stakes at Lingfield, while all the talk at Newmarket was of the week's winner, the Philpott Colours, who won the Philpott Stakes at York with Mubbedj.

The formbook certainly contains plenty of evidence to support Cole's high opinion of Sharlie's Wimpy. He won the Bertrams Stakes at Newbury in June by beating Tender King, who then went on to win the Windsor Castle Stakes at Royal Ascot. More recently, Tender King finished second in the July Stakes at Newmarket. Earlier in the season, Sharlie's Wimpy finished just behind End of the Line at Bath and that form was substantiated at Newmarket on Wednesday when End of the Line beat Tender King by a short head in the circumstances it will be more than just disappointing if Sharlie's Wimpy fails to give weight and a beating to his eight rivals today. Later in the morning it could be on target with Comedian (8.5) and Regain (9.5). There is a Comedian who will face hard tasks in the future when the handicapper has had time to reassess him. He easily won his last race at Newmarket and has not been penalized for that success for the simple reason that a victory in a race confined to apprentices does not carry a penalty. So he seems to have a good chance of winning the infield race at Newmarket. Sharlie's Wimpy, who was selected for the Red Sky Maiden Stakes, could hardly have shaped more encouragingly than he did in his first race. He was a good judge of the race and his selection for the Red Sky Maiden Stakes, which was a good judge of the race, was a good judge of the race. He was a good judge of the race and his selection for the Red Sky Maiden Stakes, which was a good judge of the race, was a good judge of the race.

White Words and Man Overboard, who finished second and third respectively behind Street Market at Wolverhampton, would

## York programme

[Television (ITV): 2.30, 3.0 and 3.30 races]

**2.0 WALSLEY HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,691: 11m)**  
10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-1038-1039-1040-1041-1042-1043-1044-1045-1046-1047-1048-1049-1050-1051-1052-1053-1054-1055-1056-1057-1058-1059-1060-1061-1062-1063-1064-1065-1066-1067-1068-1069-1070-1071-1072-1073-1074-1075-1076-1077-1078-1079-1080-1081-1082-1083-1084-1085-1086-1087-1088-1089-1090-1091-1092-1093-1094-1095-1096-1097-1098-1099-1100-1101-1102-1103-1104-1105-1106-1107-1108-1109-1110-1111-1112-1113-1114-1115-1116-1117-1118-1119-1120-1121-1122-1123-1124-1125-1126-1127-1128-1129-1130-1131-1132-1133-1134-1135-1136-1137-1138-1139-1140-1141-1142-1143-1144-1145-1146-1147-1148-1149-1150-1151-1152-1153-1154-1155-1156-1157-1158-1159-1160-1161-1162-1163-1164-1165-1166-1167-1168-1169-1170-1171-1172-1173-1174-1175-1176-1177-1178-1179-1180-1181-1182-1183-1184-1185-1186-1187-1188-1189-1190-1191-1192-1193-1194-1195-1196-1197-1198-1199-1200-1201-1202-1203-1204-1205-1206-1207-1208-1209-1210-1211-1212-1213-1214-1215-1216-1217-1218-1219-1220-1221-1222-1223-1224-1225-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§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

مكتبة عين الأمل



Has the Revenue  
too much  
power? page 21

# Business News

THE TIMES July 10 1981

Hunting Gate  
**4444**  
More than builders  
(0452) 4244

- Stock markets**  
FT Index 519.0 down 3.4  
FT Giks 64.0 up 0.19
- Sterling**  
\$1.8775 down 20 pts  
Index 929 down 0.6
- Dollar**  
Index 111.1 up 0.2  
DM2.4632 down 85 pts
- Gold**  
\$406.00 up 67.50.
- Money**  
3 mth sterling 131-133  
3 mth Euro \$ 181-181  
6 mth Euro \$ 181-181

## IN BRIEF

### 3-D sound for royal wedding

The royal wedding on July 29 is to provide an ideal opportunity to demonstrate the versatility of a unique British invention developed by the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC).

Called Ambisonics surround-sound, it is intended to record sounds exactly as they would be heard if a person were present at the live event. It could be described as the sound equivalent of three-dimensional vision.

The technique is based on research by Oxford and Reading Universities.

The BBC which is broadcasting the royal events live on television and radio will use the surround-sound tapes recorded during the historic occasion for their archives and demonstration.

### Failures on the rise

There were 44 per cent more company failures in the first half of this year than in the same period of 1980, according to Dun & Bradstreet, the credit rating agency. Its work was done in London, where 806 companies, or 35 per cent of the 2,296 total, were liquidated. The home counties, West Midlands, north-west and north-east regions also suffered badly. Retailing companies had 382 liquidations, building 262 and textiles 334. Motor trades and engineering also suffered.

### French order for ICL

International Computers Ltd has been awarded a contract by La Fromagerie Perreault of France for a system valued at \$80,000.

### £7.6m Telecom order

British Telecom has ordered £7.6m worth of telecommunications equipment from GEC.

### Tank deal for Rolls

Rolls-Royce Motors has won a further £20m contract to supply power packs and spares for the British Army's new main battle tank, the Challenger. The tank will be the first to enter service with the Army powered by Rolls-Royce diesels.

### Occupation ends

Some 1,700 workers have complied with a court order by ending their 14-day occupation of the Ford plant in Amsterdam.

### Waterway aid possible

Government acceptance of an amendment to the Transport Bill in the House of Lords could boost private investment on inland waterways. The Government has indicated its willingness to consider applications for grants towards construction of freight transport facilities.

### Safety legislation

Employers will have to ensure adequate first-aid arrangements for their workers under the new Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations 1981, which were presented to Parliament yesterday and come into force next July.

### Offshoot jobs

Hopkinson's, the Huddersfield-based valve manufacturer, has set up a subsidiary, Hopkinson's Sales & Service, which will be employing 100 people in a year's time through three companies at Cumbernauld, Paisley and Llandough, near Cardiff.

### Builder's plea

Employers and unions in the building industry met Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, yesterday, to plead for an increase in Government policy on investment in the industry. Mr Heseltine promised to convey their point of view to the Cabinet.

## Imperial chief quits as profits fall £41m

By Richard Allen



Mr Anson: Compensation could reach £300,000

Mr Malcolm Anson has resigned as chairman of Imperial Group, the tobacco to brewing combine, only 18 months after taking the £100,000-a-year post. His departure came as the group shocked the City yesterday with news of a £41m profits slump from £70.7m to £29.7m in the six months to April 30.

He is to be replaced by Mr Geoffrey Kent, formerly chairman of the group's Courage Brewery division, after a boardroom row over management policies.

Mr Kent, whose Courage operations provided one of the few bright spots in the interim results, said that Mr Anson's departure had nothing to do with the latest figures.

He said that the board had gradually come to disagree with the former chairman's decentralised management style of divisional management. "There was no crunch point—no vote was taken, Mr Anson just gathered he was in the minority."

He added that the board would be adopting a more centralised, centrally-controlled style of management.

The group would not comment on compensation terms but, with three years of his contract to run, Mr Anson could receive up to £300,000.

Imperial Group's shares fell 6p to 62½ after the results.

wiping £40m off the company's market capitalisation.

Imperial, whose cigarette brands, including John Player and Embassy, account for more than the British market, was severely hit by the Budget duty increases of 10p a packet. They are thought to have reduced consumption by more than 10 per cent.

The Budget accounted for more than 15m of the £23.5m plunge in tobacco profits of £26.1m.

The group also said that it spent between £13m and £14m promoting its John Player King-size brand to try to retain its market share despite increasing competition.

An even greater disappointment to the stockmarket was the showing of Imperial's American Howard Johnson restaurants division, which reported a £200m loss in the year. This produced profits of only £2.4m.

Imperial, cashed in £300m of gilt holdings, built up from tobacco profits, to buy Howard Johnson.

The takeover was widely criticised in the City, which was already suspicious of what were seen as ill-judged diversification by tobacco groups.

Imperial had already been pilloried for its 1978 takeover of the J & S Eastwood eggs and poultry group for £40m. This group produced only £2.4m profits in the first half.

Mr Kent defended the Howard Johnson move yesterday, saying that it was hit by recession and reduced holiday trade in Florida, where the group is strongest. He added that later figures were most encouraging.

Mr Anson, who took over as chairman after several years as deputy to Sir John Pile, said last night that there was often more than one opinion on how a group should best deploy its managerial resources.

"To resolve these differences, I have come to the conclusion that Imperial Group should have a change of chairman."



Mr Kent, hands-on management again.

## Huge rise in central borrowing caused by Civil Service dispute

By Our Economics Staff

Central government borrowing in the three months to June is provisionally estimated at £7,371m compared with £4,619m in the same period of 1980.

But the increase of some £2,750m is more than accounted for by the £3,250m to £3,750m overruns that the Government believed it has "lost" as a result of industrial action by civil servants.

Disclosing the figures in a Commons reply, Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said that the extra interest represented 3½ per cent of the total paid to non-industrial civil servants in salaries and wages in the present financial year.

In June itself, the central government borrowing requirement (CGBR) is put at £2,400m, compared with the same month last year. The impact of the Civil Service action during the month is estimated at about £1,000m.

On the face of it, the underlying trend of the CGBR looks to be broadly on course. But it is still early in the financial year, and the longer the civil servants' action continues the more difficult it becomes to know precisely how much of the "lost" revenue will ultimately be recouped.

In the three months to June, the additional interest the

### CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BORROWING REQUIREMENT

	Monthly total £m	Cumulative total £m
1980-81		
June	1,231	4,619
July	884	5,503
Aug	1,572	7,075
Sept	1,880	8,955
Oct	1,827	10,782
Nov	2,635	13,417
Dec	2,348	15,765
Jan	1,764	17,529
Feb	1,689	19,218
March	860	20,078
1981-82		
April	2,400	22,478
May	2,400	24,878
June	2,400	27,278

Government has had to pay as a result of its increased borrowings to cover its revenue shortfall have been put at £70m to £80m.

If the dispute remains unresolved, the interest cost is estimated to rise to about £140m by the end of July.

A breakdown of the latest figures shows that consolidated fund expenditure rose by 9.4 per cent in the latest quarter compared with the same quarter last year. Revenue was down by 6.2 per cent, or some £800m.

Net loans by the National Loans fund were some £730m down on last year.

## Japanese agree on car curbs

From Peter Hazelhurst Tokyo, July 9

Japan has agreed to hold its share of the United Kingdom car market down to 11 per cent this year.

The agreement was reached today at talks in Sapporo between representatives of the British Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders and Japan's Automobile Manufacturers' Association.

The Japanese delegation, led by Mr Takashi Ishihara, president of Japan, also agreed in principle to curb the exports of light vans to Britain this year "on a voluntary basis."

But the Japanese team said it would be impossible to meet Britain's demand that shipments of commercial vehicles should not exceed 11 per cent of the market.

In a fact-saving formula designed to save the talks the British delegation, in turn, agreed to withdraw its proposal which would penalise Japanese manufacturers for exceeding the 11 per cent ceiling last year.

Earlier, the British delegation, led by Mr Geoffrey Moore, SMMT chairman, claimed the Japanese had broken a gentle agreement by capturing 11.9 per cent of the British market last year. As a consequence SMMT has asked JAMA to reduce its share of the British market by 0.9 per cent—about 14,000 units—to 10.1 per cent this year.

The formula evolved today came 17 hours of talks lasting into the early hours of the morning.

But, significantly, the two delegations failed to issue a joint communiqué today which would commit the Japanese, in writing, to any specific pledge on the issue of export restraints.

A spokesman for JAMA said his delegation was greatly relieved that a formula had been evolved to save the talks before the Japanese delegation's departure for London.

"We are worried that if we do not solve our problems on an industry-to-industry basis the situation might deteriorate and lead to protectionism."

The British delegation has asked Japanese manufacturers to restrain exports to a level not exceeding 11 per cent of market for light commercial vehicles this year. But Mr Ishihara claims JAMA cannot hope to meet the demand because 12,000 Japanese commercial vehicles, accounting for 13.5 per cent of the British market, were sold in the United Kingdom during the first five months of the year.

In all Japan had already shipped 16,000 vans and other commercial vehicles to Britain this year, Mr Ishihara told the British delegation.

According to British estimates the demand for passenger cars will decline from 1.51 million last year to 1.41 million this year. At the same time the demand for commercial vehicles is expected to decline from 272,000 units to 165,000 units.

The SMMT told Japanese manufacturers that they would have to restrain their shipments of light lorries and vans.

## Petrol rises may start new price war

By Edward Townsend

A new petrol price war in Britain may be on the way if the big oil companies attempt to increase pump prices by another 6p or 7p a gallon.

They are considering a rise following the slide in the value of the pound against the United States dollar. But many fear that because prices went up by 10p a gallon just a month ago, there will be considerable market resistance to another increase.

It is also argued that discounting may be resumed, particularly in competitive urban areas, if a gallon of four stars goes up to 143p and that the oil companies may be forced to reinstate garage subsidies.

The withdrawal of price support by the major companies resulted in last month's price rises, which, with few exceptions, have held throughout the country.

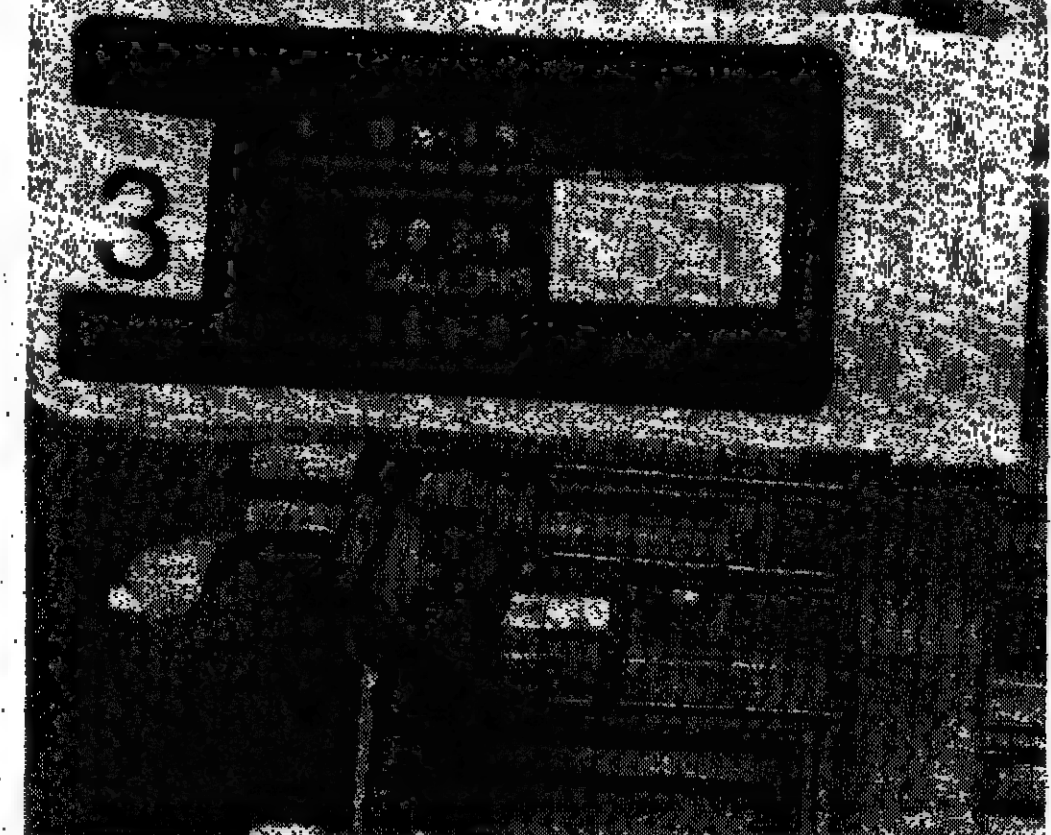
Petrol companies said in June that they had to withdraw subsidies which in the case of BP and Esso were £1m a week, in the hope of ending the cut-throat competition between garages in towns and cities. Some filling stations were selling at prices as low as 143p a gallon.

According to reports yesterday, BP and Esso are to increase their prices by 2p a gallon but these are unlikely to stick unless the major retailers follow suit. A spokesman for an leading company said yesterday: "We have reports of some people driving miles to save 2p a gallon, even though this is far outweighed by the cost of getting there."

Petrol companies now will have to weigh the possibilities of renewed discounting against the losses they are suffering on downstream refining operations.

A statement yesterday by Mobil illustrated the industry's cautious approach to pricing. The June increase, it said, was a necessary first step towards reducing significant losses but it was insufficient and was the best that could be accomplished in the market circumstances.

But then the weakening of



An eye on rising prices while filling up in London yesterday.

the pound automatically put up the price of crude oil, which is traded in dollars. "We are continuing to review our position," said the company.

The decision on June 15 to cut North Sea crude prices by \$4.25 to \$35 a barrel was welcomed by the oil companies with refining interests although BP Oil, for example, gave warning that it needed a further reduction to return to profitability. Since then, the major companies say that the pound's fall has wiped out much of the advantage of the North Sea price drop.

However, the refiners regard as encouraging a significant rise in petroleum prices at Rotterdam, Europe's centre for spot purchases of motor spirit and crude oil. Average Rotterdam petrol prices in May were \$34.8 a tonne, but they have risen to \$38.5 a tonne.

This is believed to be because of considerable buying and re-selling of cargoes, but the petrol companies hope the increase marks the beginning of an upward trend in spot prices. Cheaper petrol bought in Rotterdam was the basis of much of the recent price cutting in the north of England. About 20 per cent of Britain's petrol is bought on the spot market.

According to the latest issue of the authoritative Petroleum Intelligence Weekly, there are signs of a modest recovery of spot crude oil prices. Arabian light crude has risen by up to 50 cents to about \$31.85 a barrel and a similar increase has boosted North Sea Forties crude to a spot level of \$32.50.

Latest figures from the Institute of Petroleum show that United Kingdom demand for petrol in the first quarter was at its lowest January-March level since 1964. Inland deliveries totalled 19.1 million tonnes, a fall of 14.7 per cent from a year earlier.

## British Steel plans to create 17,000 jobs

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

The British Steel Corporation, which has axed more than 60,000 jobs over the past three years, is to attempt to create 17,000 jobs in affected areas by 1984.

They would be in addition to the past.

Mr John Dumbor, chief executive of BSC (Industry), the corporation's job creation subsidiary, said when the company launched a new campaign yesterday: "At a time when the impact of steel closures is multiplied by the general economic situation, we cannot rest content. Our steel areas are uniquely attractive to industrialists."

"Ours is an unbeatable package in Britain and stands comparison with anything in Europe."

The company has received requests for information from 5,000 companies in the past three years and a tenth of them

were helped to create jobs.

So far this year, the company has received 800 inquiries about job opportunities. It believes this reflects a considerable entrepreneurial spirit.

In its latest campaign, the company is to appeal by direct mail to leading companies and senior executives in the autumn.

By last March, the company had negotiated, or was negotiating, 150m worth of cheap European Coal and Steel Community jobs to relieve the problems of steel closure areas.

A unique BSC (Industry) and European Social Fund training grant scheme, initially involving £2.8m, was launched last year.

The Steelaid central heading group, Metal Box's major diversification outside packaging, is to close its bolismaking plant at Swinton, near Mexborough, South Yorkshire, with the loss of 260 jobs.

## Howell to meet gas unions

Union leaders of 106,000 gas workers are to meet Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, today in London.

The meeting will be to discuss the implementation of the Government's recent decision, to order British Gas to cease retailing and sell off its 938 showrooms within five years.

Department of Energy officials said Monday's planned national

one-day strike by gas workers would not be discussed.

The gas unions have warned that if the Government implements its plans in full, there will be an indefinite all-out strike.

However, Whitehall sources were suggesting yesterday that there might not be legislation in the coming Parliamentary session.

## Texaco rumours persist

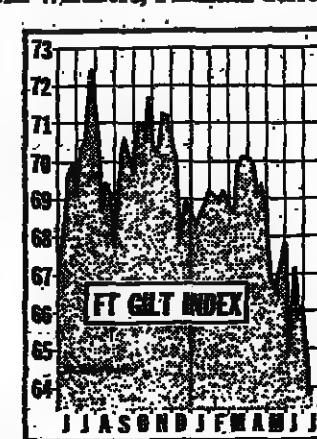
Wall Street was buzzing with rumours today that Texaco is about to make a bid for a rival oil company, possibly even Comoco, which has agreed to a \$7,300m (£3,883m) bid for it by Du Pont.

Service of Oklahoma, the 20th largest United States oil company, is also seen as a likely Texaco target. The New

York Times today quoted unnamed "authoritative sources" as stating that Texaco will definitely make a bid for Cities Service and that Texaco is completing arrangements now on a loan for about \$5,000m. Yesterday Cities Service said it was not in any merger talks and wishes to remain independent.

## Rush to buy up indexed stock

By John Whitmore, Financial Correspondent



The City, still astonished at the Government's decision to sell indexed-link stock offering a real rate of close to 3 per cent, rushed yesterday to buy the rump of Wednesday's £1,000m stock issues.

Remaining supplies of the stock, amounting perhaps to £400m-£500m, was sold at the start of the day's business at £86½ per cent compared with the £86 at which stock had been allocated in Wednesday's tender.

By the close of business, investors in the stock were already sitting on handsome paper profits with the price standing at the equivalent of £88 in fully paid form.

Conventional gilt-edged stocks were also encouraged by the sell-off. Prices recovered up to half a point of Wednesday's heavy falls in early trading, and the Government broker was able to sell a modest amount of the short "top" Treasury 11½ per cent 1985. Later in the day, however, the market turned easier again.

After the diversion of the indexed-link stock issue, all eyes were turning back last night towards developments on dollar interest rates.

The market is still uncertain as to how far the Federal Reserve's policy may change as a result of this week's meeting of the open markets committee.

But while short-term dollar rates remained tight and the Federal Funds rate was once more above the 20 per cent level, dealers noted the Fed's

leave the Bank of England's minimum lending rate unaltered at 12 per cent caused no great surprise and had been largely discounted in foreign exchange markets.

The general assumption is that the Bank will now be content to allow the 1 per cent rise or so seen in money market rates this week to continue, without a corresponding increase in MLR itself.

Only if sterling comes under renewed pressure in the coming weeks and money market rates rise still further is the Government likely to consider an MLR rise.

Meanwhile, the handling of Wednesday's sale of the Government's second indexed-link issue has set off a considerable debate both within official circles and in the City.

What seems clear is that there was considerable over-optimism as to the amount of the stock that pension funds would be prepared to buy on the basis of a 2½ per cent yield, hence the need to cut the price to a yield basis of 2½ per cent to ensure both that a significant quantity of funding could be achieved and that pension funds would be interested in further issues of such stocks if the Government wished to make them.

The main criticism is that the Government is having to pay over the odds because of its restriction that the stock can be bought only by pension funds.

Financial Editor, Page 21

## Panel turns down appeal by Collins

By Philip Robinson

The Takeover Panel yesterday upheld the decision of its own executive that the 9.5 per cent stake in William Collins & Sons (Holdings) bought by Mr Rupert Murdoch from Mr Robert Maxwell was unconcerned with other deals made between the two on the same day.

The decision, dismissing Collins' appeal against the executive's original ruling, came after two hours of discussions between the full 13-man panel headed by Sir Jasper Bolton.

Mr Murdoch's News International is bidding £25m for Collins which has rejected the takeover. The Maxwell stake bought by Mr Collins to round off a small amount of stock for an associate of Collins.

Both Collins and its merchant bank advisors J Henry Schroder Wagg denied all knowledge of the buying and said yesterday it was neither of them.

## ATKINS BROTHERS (HOSIERY) LIMITED

The following are salient points from the Chairman's Statement to Shareholders:

- Group profits for the year ending 31st March, 1981 amounted to £448,476 (£509,924). Taxation takes £145,809 (£253,904). A change in the method of providing relief against taxation for changes in the value of stocks results in £621,700, which had been provided as deferred taxation in previous years, no longer being required, and so total profits after taxation amount to £924,587 (£256,020).
- Whilst turnover was up by 5% on the previous year, profits were down 12% showing, I regret to say, continuation of the pattern of decline in our margins. The Company's finances are in good shape, and it is for this reason that your directors are recommending the final dividend be increased to 3.65 pence which brings total distributions for the year to the same level as last year.
- The overall market demand for the Company's products is reasonably healthy in quantity, but tough on margins because of intense competition both from within the UK and from abroad, and sales generally are not expected to improve until the Autumn/Winter months.

Makers of "LUCKY CHARM" Tights, Stockings, Ladies' Underwear and Knitwear.

"HIGH CROSS" Men's and Boy's Underwear, Knitwear and Sportswear.

"JOLYNE" Ladies' fully fashioned and made-up Knitwear.

## PRICE CHANGES

<b>Rises</b>			
Barex	5p to 68p	Kinross	37p to 57½p
Bracknell Mines	9p to 119p	Middle Wits	20p to 62½p
Brillwalle Eng	8p to 123p	Rams Mine Prop	16p to 348p
Colliers W	10p to 238p	Seatrast	16p to 372p
Colliers V	37p to 353p	UC Invest	18p to 538p
<b>Falls</b>			
AVI Midgs	10p to 258p	GEC	10p to 718p
EAT Ind	12p to 348p	Hampson 'A'	10p to 625p
Blue Circle	8p to 123p	Hawker Siddeley	10p to 318p
Cirrell Dresses	10p to 155p	Lasmo	13p to 504p
Electrocomp	15p to 753p	Sekers Int	3p to 14p



## FOREIGN

## Mexico oil sales fall by 50pc

Mexico's oil sales have dropped by about half as its attempt to raise prices by \$2 a barrel drives away customers, according to Western analysts.

They estimate that the total loss of sales since early last month at some 700,000 barrels a day. Mexico's exports have been approaching 1.5 million bpd. Economists believe the country will now have to make heavy new borrowings because of the loss of revenue if it is to sustain growth.

The Mexican state oil company Pemex cut prices by 54¢ a barrel to \$30.50 last month in the face of the world oil glut, but this caused strong criticism within the country. Pemex now seeks a \$2-a-barrel price rise.

## US sales to China

The Reagan Administration has reduced restrictions on sales of high technology equipment to China and will treat it more favourably than other Communist nations, the Commerce Department said yesterday. Licence applications for more technically advanced products will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

## Shell in Peru

The Peruvian government and Royal Dutch/Shell will tomorrow sign a contract for oil exploration in the South-east Amazon area of Peru. Shell will receive a concession of about 2.5m acres and will invest \$100m (£52m) in the first two years.

## Bauxite threat

The National Workers Union has said it will shut down Jamaica's bauxite industry if five companies do not resume wage negotiations by the weekend. The companies involved are Alcan Aluminium, KALCOA, Reynolds Metals, Alcoa Aluminium and Chemical, and Alupar.

## Ford Brazil strike

Ford's Brazilian subsidiary has asked the Ministry of Labour to take the first step in arbitrating a strike by 9,000 workers. One of Ford's three factories in Brazil is idle, and the company is losing production of 340 cars per day.

## US help for Chile

The Inter-American Development Bank has said it will provide loans totalling \$161m (£83m) to help Chile rebuild its main North-South highway.

## Japan lends to China

The government-owned Export-Import Bank of Japan has agreed to provide China with loans totalling 42,000m yen (£95m).

## German pessimism

West German output is still likely to fall by about 1.5 per cent this year despite a recent surge in export demand, the German Institute for Economic Research said in West Berlin.

## Cutback in oil exports will shrink Arab dollar surplus

By Melvyn Westlake

The Middle East oil exporters' huge petrodollar surplus will fall sharply next year, according to today's *Economic Outlook* from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

After reaching \$120,000m (£63,830m) in 1980 following the second big price rise, the surplus generated by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is predicted to drop to about half that in 1982—\$65,000m. However, little reduction is expected in the surplus this year.

The main reasons for the decline next year are a drop in OPEC oil exports and an increase in OPEC imports of other goods.

The decline in output in Britain is forecast to end in the final three months of this year, and to be followed by a modest recovery next year.

Despite this, employment is expected to continue to fall through next year and inflation to decline to an annual rate of 8½ per cent in the second half of the year.

As the petrodollar surplus shrinks, the current account deficits faced by some industrialised countries, notably West Germany, France, Italy and Canada, should improve. The United States on the other hand, is expected to see its current account swing from surplus to deficit.

For many developing countries, however, the situation is already serious and getting worse. Those which are net oil importers will together face a deficit of \$61,000m this year, compared with \$53,000m last year.

The *Economic Outlook* says that many of the poorest countries may simply be unable to increase their imports because their reserves are inadequate, external finance is not available and more of their export earnings must be earmarked to meet debt repayments and interest charges.

Although the deflationary effects of the second oil price increase is now beginning to work itself out, Government policies have become more restrictive. Budgetary policy got tighter last year in some countries and is likely to tighten further this year, the *Economic Outlook* predicts.

The short-term inflation outlook for industrialised countries has worsened, partly because of higher oil prices and partly because the fall in many currencies against the dollar has prevented the benefits of generally lower commodity prices from being felt quickly.

Furthermore, the fall in European currency values will affect other import costs in many countries. The overall effect could be to worsen the inflation outlook by one-half to three-quarters of a percentage point for this year as a whole, and possibly for next year.

But, assuming no further change in currency rates, import prices are expected to have a dampening influence on inflation over the next 18 months.

Economic growth in the United States next year is expected to fall far short of the Reagan Administration's forecast of 5½ per cent, the *Economic Outlook* said. It forecast that growth in America's gross national product would be more than halved to 1 per cent.

Two forces at work

The 24 OECD members are still being affected by two principal forces: the second oil shock, in 1979-80, and the tight policies adopted to meet it.

Recent changes in currency values may also be affecting overall demand in industrialised nations and, more significantly, the distribution of demand between them.

General business activity in the big seven industrial nations has held up better than ex-

pected at the end of last year. This was because North America and Japan performed better than expected, but it was partially offset by weak economic conditions in Europe. At the same time, economists at the OECD secretariat have now revised downwards their predictions of output in the second half of this year and the first half of next. The recovery will be delayed by six months or more, the *Economic Outlook* says.

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## INFLATION IN OECD AREA

(percentage changes seasonally adjusted at annual rates)

	Average 1979 to 1980	1980	1981	1982
United States	5.5	8.9	9	7.2
Japan	7.8	3.2	5	4.1
Germany	5.5	5	6	5
France	8.9	11.5	11.5	11.5
United Kingdom	12.8	16.2	13	10
Italy	13	22	19	18
Canada	9.1	10.5	10.2	11
Total of above countries	9.5	9.9	10	11.3
Other OECD countries	9.5	10.1	10	11.3
Total OECD	7.8	9.7	10	11.3

## EEC urged to act on textiles

By Our Industrial Editor

Europe's textile industry, which has shed almost one million jobs over the past eight years, has urged the EEC Commission to adopt a tough line on imports from developing countries in discussions which begin next week on the renewal of the GATT Multi-Fibre Arrangement.

Comitex, the Brussels-based organization representing the European textile industry and its three million employees, yesterday urged the Council of Ministers to ensure that in the talks with developing countries, textile imports were limited to an annual growth of no more than 1 per cent, which represents the estimated growth in EEC consumption of textile and clothing products.

In a letter to Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary and current chairman of the EEC Ministerial Council, Comitex emphasized the importance of the EEC talks, which begin next week, to the future of the industry in Europe.

The organization stressed the need for European ministers to establish a detailed negotiating position devoid of vagueness and ambiguity. It added that the industry would find it incomprehensible if the council failed to meet its objectives in global terms.

Comitex has called on the EEC to reaffirm basic objectives.

Only Eastern Airlines among American airlines has bought the wide-bodied A300 Airbus. General Dynamics officials met the European Airbus management to discuss their involvement in the manufacturer of the 150-seat A320.

Mr David Lewis, head of General Dynamics, said the decision against joining the Europeans was taken "because we believe that opportunities with great near-term growth potential for General Dynamics will be forthcoming in areas other than commercial aircraft".

Mr Philip Hills will join Anthony Gibbs & Sons as export finance director on July 27. Mr Philip Atkins will join as assistant director in charge of operations on August 17 and Mr Andrew Skinner has been named assistant director.

Mr Herbert J. Crutchfield has been appointed chairman of the House-Building Advisory Bureau. Mr Douglas E. J. Clouthier has been appointed to the board of Royal Trust Bank (Jersey).

Mr Peter Dehney has been named managing director of Computer Services Centre Group following the resignation of Mr P. E. N. Blacklock. Also appointed to the board are Mr Bill Halbert as sales and marketing director and Mr Gerry Hart as finance director.

Mr John Wilson has been appointed to the main board of KCA International as deputy managing director.

Mr P. Ford has been elected member of the Homebrewers' Company. Mr J. C. Foot is now senior warden and Mr J. P. Southwell has become junior warden.

Mr John Hignett has resigned from the board of Carless, Capel and Leonard following his appointment as director-general of the Take-over Panel. The board will invite Mr Marcus Agius to replace him as a non-executive director from August 4.

Mr David Osborne has been appointed director of FA Developments, a subsidiary of FA International.

Mr Andrew D. Gilmour has been named to the board of Metropolitan Pensions Association.

Dr J. V. Butcher has been appointed director of Yorkshire Chemicals in place of Mr S. Fowler, who has retired from the board. Mr P. A. Lowe has been appointed to the board as commercial director. Mr B. J. Clarke, engineering director, has retired from the board.

Mr Kenneth E. Secrett becomes managing director of United

Red Mountain: grounds for optimism

US firm pulls out of European Airbus

UK SHOE PANEL FORMED

A way of bringing British footwear manufacturers closer to the retailers closer in the hope of increasing the British market share of the home market is being explored.

A discussion panel has been formed with encouragement from the National Economic Development Office in an experiment based on successful similar arrangements in the clothing and textile industries.

There has been increasing anxiety among British footwear makers at the increasing market share taken by imports. The imports have been moving increasingly into the quality end of the market.

Tea sales in volume have been declining slightly but that does not reflect a lesser number of cups drunk.

bring increased share of the present instant coffee market, which accounts for most of the total coffee market, itself worth £280m a year in sales.

With total spending by all manufacturers in coffee advertising now likely to be about £11m in the next 12 months, Brooke Bond Oxo already spends £1.5m on coffee advertising—people are expected to drink more of it.

Coffee is one of the few grocery sectors still showing growth, according to Brooke Bond Oxo, while the food market generally is largely static.

The average Briton at present consumes between two and a half and three cups of coffee daily, compared with four and a half cups of tea.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Rebuilding Imperial's image

Imperial warned shareholders of a substantial profits setback in the first half. But the plunge from £70.7m to £29.7m goes way beyond the City's worst fears, where outside forecasts were generally around £45m. Clearly, in these circumstances, something had to give and Mr Malcolm Anson, who took the chair only a year ago and whose decentralized management control theories apparently did not square with the rest of the board, has agreed to depart.

This move however is unlikely to restore boardroom credibility overnight particularly as many of the causes for Imperial's abysmal showing pre-date his appointment. As expected, trading profits from tobacco collapsed—from £49.6m to £26.1m—with a 12 per cent decline in the United Kingdom market as a result of Budget increases a major factor, although Imperial pumped out between £13m and £14m to promote its John Player brands in a bid to hold market share. But the real shock came from the controversial Howard Johnson acquisition, which turned in trading profits of £2.4m compared with £13.3m in the previous half and City expectations of around £15m.

Imperial blames the recession which reduced the holiday trade particularly in Florida and extra short-term costs mostly for refurbishment. The board was still waxing lyrical about Ho-Jo's potential yesterday, but the echoes of the Eastwood takeover are all too clear. In fact, Imperial's diversification into foods has yet to prove even remotely successful. The division saw trading profits slump from £5.4m to £2.4m as weak prices and high feed costs squeezed the poultry industry. The only bright spot has been Courage, where major rationalization moves and a claimed volume rise of 7 per cent have pushed up the contribution £3.5m to £23.1m.

Meanwhile, the effect of Imperial's gradual exchange of its £350m gilt mountain for Ho-Jo's equity has been to multiply net interest charges almost by four to £25.4m. Imperial's forecast of around £83m for the full year, against £124m, would be just sufficient to cover a maintained dividend on a historical basis, but current-cost cover would only be around three-quarters. So an historic yield of 16.7 per cent after a 6p plunge to 62p last night is possibly academic.

Income funds, however, are likely to go on giving Imperial the benefit of the doubt and with takeover talk likely to recur, last night's close could be the floor. Imperial's hunger for growth status, however, seems as far away as ever.

● Even before the City had time to embark on its post-mortems on the handling of Wednesday's index-linked stock offering, the Government Broker had managed to dispose of the rump of the issue. That, at least, enabled the authorities to claim a success of sorts, though it was not a success that many found particularly impressive.

What the authorities have now discovered is that the authorities and many fund managers were telling them from the start, namely that pension fund managers will buy index-linked stock on a yield basis of close to 3 per cent.

Now that fact has been established, we could presumably see further issues, so long as the Government accepts the price that has to be paid. And that, of course, is the nub of the matter. Will the Government now accept that this is the price to sell such stocks? If not, then it has the choice of either abandoning indexed stocks or broadening the scope of the market beyond pension funds to bring more demand.

Montague L. Meyer

### On a see-saw

Meyer's results follow the gloomy pattern set by International Timber and May & Hassell, which have both recently reported trading losses and reduced dividends. In Meyer's case the magnitude of the downturn is considerably greater. Losses of £5.8m pre-tax in the second half left Meyer showing a £2.7m annual loss to March 31 compared with a profit of £16.3m the year before.

With the final dividend cut by more than two-thirds and the shares unchanged at 67p,

Meyer now yields only 6.4 per cent which is not much of a prop for the shares. The group, though, along with others in the timber sector, has been supported by takeover speculation and despite last year's net losses which wiped nearly £9m from reserves, the group still has a net worth of £102m or 168p a share.

Having relied so much on rising timber prices to swell profits in the past, the industry came badly unstuck last year as the drop in construction activity and new housing starts led to lower demand and prices and stocks were unloaded in the face of high interest rates. Meyer, the largest timber wholesaler in the country, was also caught out with forward commitments of Russian timber at fixed sterling prices and was undercut by others, able to use the rising pound to import more cheaply.

This time Meyer will be protected by currency clauses to prevent the same happening and it has also been attacking costs with the workforce reduced by about a quarter in the past year. The results included £1.7m above the line for reorganization—partly offset by £750,000 of property profits—and £2.3m of extraordinary closure costs.

Asset sales, much lower capital spending and reduced working capital has also cut £8.4m from borrowings to £55.4m. But gearing and the interest burden—£12.7m last year—are still considerable and the permanent reduction in debt Meyer is aiming at will be hard to achieve without cutting capacity. Meanwhile the poor outlook for housing starts and repair and maintenance work suggest Meyer will have difficulty making a profit in the first half of this year, although there are tentative signs of improving margins and the cash flow is positive.

Sothebys

### Financing the future

A sense of relief on figures that are a little better than expected is no longer the stuff of rising share prices and Sotheby's Park Bernet Group fell victim yesterday with the shares falling 8p to 475p. Net auction sales in the half-year to February were ahead by 27 per cent to £145.6m, while pre-tax profits fell behind with a 10 per cent drop to £4.28m, and the full year's looks likely to be similarly down. The interim dividend is 5.0p gross again.

The trouble is that there is no way yet of deciding whether Sotheby's decision to go for a big turnover through the investment of £13m in three big salerooms was the right one, as they will only be fully operational next season. Meanwhile, the group has suffered from the financing charges incurred on that expenditure. Recession has also left its mark though the art market has been exceptionally buoyant, and the past season had its moments, but was largely bereft of the spectaculars of past years.

The strength of the dollar is now working in the group's favour, and as the two big salerooms, especially in New York, work up to full capacity the hope must be of profits, other things being equal, of between £8m and £10m. As investments, Sotheby's and Christie's score on quality of earnings as groups selling services and inflation-adjusted profits are very near historic ones. This autumn will, however, see the High Court action over the introduction of the buyers' premium, so the 3.8 per cent yield is looking ahead far enough.

● Business failures are very much part of the times, but the latest Dm & Bradstreet figures, coming on top of the Department of Trade report on personal bankruptcies, are still disturbing. Company liquidations in the first half of 1981 were 44 per cent higher than in the same period last year and the gravity of the underlying trend has probably been concealed by the civil service dispute.

From the Government's point of view, a worrying aspect of the figures must be the concentration of failures in the already depressed regions—the North West, North East and West Midlands notably. But another indication of how far the recession has spread is the very high number of liquidations in London and the Home Counties. The fact that business start-ups are also running at a high level is a small consolation.

## Business Diary: Beaux and belles at the Savoy

Reviled though the Bow Group may be within the Prime Minister's inner sanctum, this paradigm of Tory wettiness is by no means despondent about its future.

Next Thursday it celebrates its thirtieth birthday with an anniversary ball at the Savoy. Organizer Philippa Curry tells me that it will be the largest Bow social event of recent years and comes at a time of rising membership.

David Howell, the Secretary of State for Energy, will be there, and Curry also hopes that another Bow Cabinet member, the Chancellor, will "make an appearance".

Though the Prime Minister may frown upon most of Bow's activities—its latest wheeze is to compromise on gas showrooms by turning them into McDonald's-style franchise operations—she can hardly round upon those associating themselves with the event. The PM, known in Bow circles as "Herself", is the ball's president, though she is not expected to attend.

"She is a very busy lady", Curry said with some tact.

Howell's attendance should come as no surprise—his wife is the ball's chairman. If the Energy Secretary is lucky at the Bow's tombola he could win a weekend for two in Paris or two tickets to the Sunbury World Matchplay Golf championship at Wentworth. Clearly, life is one long whizz for progressive Tories these days.

Bow has about 1,000 members, 62 of them British MPs and 30 European MPs. With 250 attending the ball at £16 a ticket, the group should raise

enough money to continue in its role as gad-fly to the Government.

But one remains puzzled by the Savoy's description of the event: "This Conservative Party's annual ball is an order to influence the Government and prides itself on its quiet successes."

What successes? Quiet or not, surely we should be told.

### Schlock waves

Yesterday's downpour in central London probably seemed even more apocalyptic to Bloomsbury publishers Souvenir Press than to most of us.

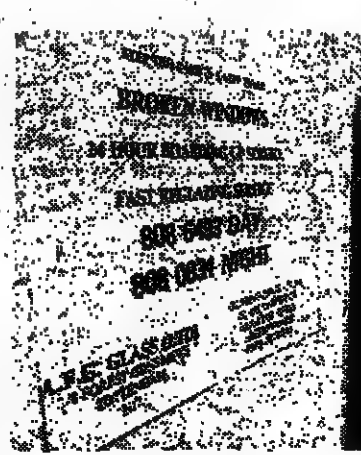
The book group were just making the final preparations for the autumn launch of one of their new titles, *Doomsday Triangle*, when the heavens opened.

Written by Charles Berlitz, who produced that best-selling collection of tish Bermuda Triangle, it describes various ways in which the world might end in 1990, including flooding.

A few minutes after the rain began, Souvenir faced a doomsday of their own. Their office's flat roof filled with rainwater to the depth of a foot and waves started to roll down the internal staircase.

The staff duly leapt on to the roof and started to bail the water out, manfully led by managing director Ernest Hecht.

Souvenir aide Jo Varney says: "I'm afraid we splashed a few passers-by in the process but we appear to have created great amusement at the British Museum opposite us."



Never believe that old saw about British businessmen being slow to catch on. Given the chance, they can match anybody, even if the circumstances are not so pleasant. In the wake of our recent riots the Glass & Glazing Federation has enterprisingly compiled a list of London member firms offering a 24-hour service and thoughtfully provided the Metropolitan Police with copies. Every time the police tell a trader that his

shop windows have been smashed they can also provide details of the nearest contractor who is on call to effect temporary repairs. As our picture shows, the round-the-clock glazier are not beyond leaving a calling card to attract the attention of other riot victims. Tottenham contractor Albert Pardoe modestly observes: "We seem to have been a lot busier lately and have attended three riots."

If a stream of businessmen and trade organizations testifying in Washington are to be believed, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act has crippled the American export drive. Introduced four years ago to stop American companies bribing foreign officials to win orders, the law has instead so overwhelmed them with the paperwork needed to know every single payment that it has been dubbed the "Accountant's Full Employment Act, 1977".

More to the point, so scarce are directors of the Act's ferocious penalties, which include five years in jail and million dollar fines, that they have chosen to stay at home rather than risk exporting to the Third World and breaking the law.

That, at least, is what they have been telling their senators at recent public hearings in Washington and, as a result, there is strong pressure in Congress to amend the Act, even if this runs the risk of opening the door again to the slash funds and the corruption of foreign politicians which tarnished the image of certain American companies in the early 1970s. The Act was sparked off by such bribery scandals as that of the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation.

How much American export business has been lost because firms can no longer pay "commissions" is a moot point. Most companies will not talk about it publicly, because, in the words of a Westinghouse spokesman, "you immediately end up wearing a black hat."

But not everyone is as coy. Rohm Haas, the chemical group, which has recently announced the closure of its Teeside plant, loses \$15m to

## The bribery backlash that is hitting US exporters

Anthony Hilton

\$20m a year in sales, according to Mr John Subak, its lawyer. This is rather less than 1 per cent of its \$2,400m annual turnover, but 2-3 per cent of its overseas business.

The figure was even higher at the Harris Corporation, a Florida-based manufacturer of electronic communications and information systems, which has annual sales of \$1,600m, of which 30 per cent go overseas.

"We believe the FCPA is a very damaging law," says Mr Joseph Creighton, the vice-president. "We comply with it and our exports have survived, but at substantial cost."

Most firms seem to agree with him. According to a study just published by the General Accounting Office, a Federal Government agency, 30 per cent of the companies polled claimed to have lost overseas business as a result of the Act and 60 per cent believed that other things being equal, they could not compete with foreign companies and countries which are still bribing.

The cause of the slump is clear. The company has abandoned efforts to get business where it suspects that its overseas agents—most of whom are independent operators—may be paying bribes, because, under the Act, the Harris directors could still be held responsible and jailed.

South America, the Middle East and South-east Asia were its prime markets. "We are probably losing something like \$20m a year of business we don't go after," Mr Creighton says. "Whether that is all lost business or not is hard to say."

Rohm Haas had a similar problem. Mr Subak says: "At first we tried to get our overseas agents to sign a statement saying that they had complied with the Act, but the lawyers would sign anything and the good agents told us to go to hell."

Ingersoll Rand declined to put a cash figure on its lost business, but criticized the Act. "It has rewarded foreign competitors of American companies who continue to bribe. It has deferred conclusion of an international agreement on the problem and it has sapped the ability of this country to compete abroad," says its company lawyer, Mr Norman Pacun.

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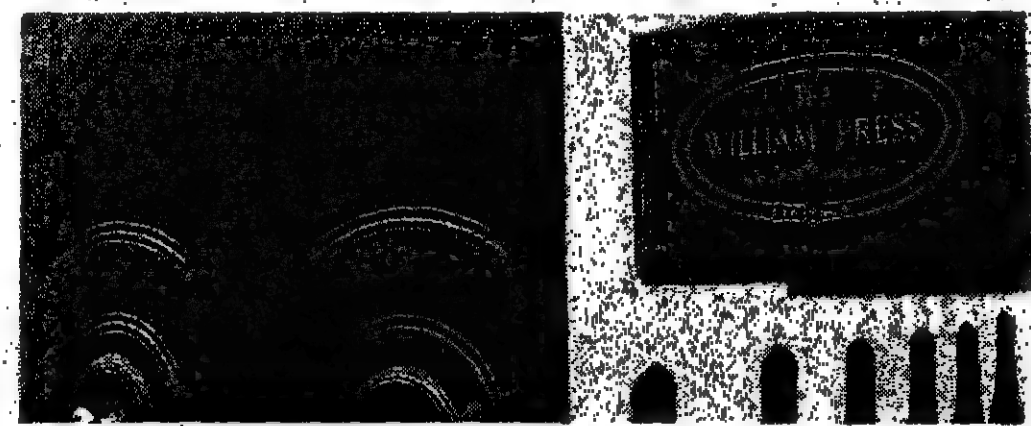
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## Has the Revenue too much power?

Adrienne Gleeson examines the controversy over the William Press tax case



venue, into the business of making money. The reverberations of the affair of which they have been the unwilling pawns are, however, likely to continue for some time.

For one thing it provided a fine example of just how high-handedness in investigating suspected tax offences, of which accountants and tax lawyers have been complaining increasingly, is now the norm. In the early hours of the morning of March 6, 1978, Inland Revenue inspectors, accompanied by the police, and requested to open their offices in England and Scotland so that the taxman could go through their books.

In fact they took them away, and in such quantities that counsel in the subsequent court cases declared that a pantechonics have been required to move the lot at once.

That court case hinged on the question of whether William Press had been defrauding the Inland Revenue by pretending that its own employees were in fact employed sub-contractors. Last week, after 21 weeks of submissions by the opposing sides, Judge Lawson QC directed the jury to acquit the defendants of all the charges against them, for lack of sufficient evidence.

William Press and its directors have now retreated, in a discreet silence punctuated by cautious expressions of goodwill towards the Inland Revenue.

Inland Revenue powers are in fact being scrutinized at the moment by a committee under the chairmanship of Lord Keith, the Scottish Lord of Appeal. He is expected to start taking oral evidence in September, and to make his report in the middle of next year. This committee is to investigate, for instance, the Revenue's powers to divert the Inland Revenue's earnings critics, who want a completely independent commission set up, on Scarsden lines, to investigate—for instance—the Revenue's powers to impound the vast mass of documents they took over in

the Press affair. At the moment that looks like a vain hope. In the meantime the Inland Revenue is steadily fighting its corner, claiming, in the first place, that the fact that the William Press affair was sent for trial after committal proceedings indicated that there was a prima facie case to answer and in the second, that although the full case was never heard, the mere fact that the Revenue was prepared to bring it at all ought to have some deterrent effect.

It is, in fact, Revenue policy to seek for the least rather than the most severe penalty in the public interest to prosecute. In the Press affair, at the moment that looks like a vain hope.

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### Technology

## A quantum leap for the laser

Reports have been circulating among the handful of specialist laboratories doing advanced research into the use of lasers that a team led by Dr George Chapline, at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, California, has invented one that generates X-rays. Using the term in its scientific sense, if this is correct then a quantum jump has been made in this field of technology.

For the development of an X-ray laser could overcome many of the limitations placed on industrial and academic research workers in metallurgy, molecular biology, organic chemistry and many other subjects.

They will no longer be restricted to weak X-ray sources for examining materials, which include tumour cells from cancer tissues and the atoms of metals. Dr Chapline's team are part of an important classified project sponsored by the United States Department of Defense.

Any lingering doubts that an X-ray laser has been achieved have been virtually swept away by an article in the current issue of *Nature* by Dr Peter Knight, of the optics section of the Blackett Laboratory, Imperial College, London.

He reviews the credibility of the data that teams of scientists, working at the frontier of laser development, have been exchanging on the subject over

the past four months through a specialist bulletin called *Laser Focus*. This is a newsletter providing an insight into advances before they appear formally in the traditional journals.

It has proved difficult to create the conditions whereby the quantum of energy emitted by a laser is not in the form of light but X-rays: it is a goal which the leading groups in laser research have been pursuing for more than a decade.

A fundamental difference separates the attitudes towards the perfection of an X-ray laser and the invention of the original devices for generating an intense beam of pure visible light. For the first lasers spent nearly 10 years as remarkable laboratory inventions looking for an application.

In contrast, an X-ray laser has a myriad of applications waiting on its discovery. Inasmuch as it should transform research in industrial materials for examining basic chemical, physical and mechanical properties, including electrical resistivity, radiolysis, swelling of nuclear fuel canisters, the onset of metal fatigue and photographing individual atoms of elements.

But there may be a long gap between the discovery of the device and the development of generally available equipment. Moreover, there has been a cardinal divergence in approach between British and American research groups.

The general trend in laser research over the past few years has been to find methods of producing ones that differ from those that emit intense beams of red or blue-green light; instead the new types generate a pure frequency up to 50 times shorter than the wavelength of visible light. While the pure research groups were exploring materials which could be stimu-

lated to generate shorter frequencies, the applied research teams were working on existing lasers into more powerful instruments. Those are being turned into weapons systems to obliterate the optical guidance components on missiles or to punch holes in their fuel tanks. The power and penetration of an X-ray laser makes it an even more formidable weapon; hence the secrecy surrounding the American scheme. It but the construction of such a device is very difficult. Because of some crucial differences between the properties of light rays and X-rays some of the technical tricks for stimulating the level of "excitement" in atoms of material to provoke the laser action are not available to the scientist.

The closest approach to generating X-rays in a laboratory in the United Kingdom is believed to have been by Professor Geoffrey Perre's team at the University of Hull. It involved vaporizing carbon fibre material in a neodymium-glass laser. The intensely energetic state of that process was exploited in a way that generates a "lasing" action close to X-ray wavelengths.

These are the best results published and the Hull team is moving its experiments to the Rutherford and Appleton laboratories of the Science and Engineering Research Council where a longer length of carbon fibre with a more powerful pulse of energy can be vaporized.

The task of feeding the raw energy into material to stimulate the emission of a pure beam of radiation is usually referred to as "pumping"; and the Livermore group is reported to have harnessed the energy from a small nuclear explosion at the United States test site at Nevada for the purpose.

So Rohm-Haas's Mr Subak, probably spoke for most of the people on Capitol Hill when he said: "The Act is recognized as a first-rate pain in the tail by most of American industry. Only our foreign competitors think it's nice."

year to the end of March 1980—the latest for which official figures are available—there were only 148 convictions for tax offences (and eight acquittals).

The Inland Revenue has some support from unexpected quarters. For instance Mr Halim Hudson, chairman of the committee of accountants' bodies which presented written evidence to the Keith committee, has "no objection" to the scope of the Revenue's powers in general, and is inclined to think that in some respects it is powers to prevent potential tax evaders from leaving United Kingdom shores, for instance—they might well be strengthened.

He sees the introduction of new powers of search and entry in 1976 as the inevitable result of the increasing tendency of tax advisers to persuade their clients, when in trouble, to say nothing. He reckons that his own policy—to induce clients to make a clean breast of their attempts at dodging the Revenue—produces a better (that is, less expensive) result in the end, than trying to fight the taxman when it is too late. But in this he reveals a confidence in the Inland Revenue's capacity for tempering justice with mercy which is certainly not shared by his professional brethren. The Inland Revenue's attempts to extract admissions of guilt by the heavily footed methods used in the William Press affair are hardly likely to persuade them to the contrary.

Pearce Wright















# Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

## TELEVISION

### BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Symbolic Death 7.05 No Regrets for William Shakespeare. 7.30 Politics and Social Change. Closedown at 7.55.  
10.55 International Golf. Live coverage of the State Express Classic from The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, introduced by Harry Carpenter. (Further live coverage at 2.15 on BBC 1 and 4.20 on BBC 2 with highlights of the day's play at 11.35 on BBC2.)  
1.15 News.  
2.30 Play School. For the under-fives (shown earlier on BBC 2).  
4.45 The Space Sentinels. Animated Science fiction stories. This afternoon: The

Time Traveller (r). 5.10 The Best of Horses Galore. Susan King attends a marathon cross-country driving event held near Kilsno. 5.35 Paddington has trouble at No 32. Narrated by Michael Hordern.  
5.40 News read by Richard Baker. 5.55 Regional news magazines. 6.20 Nationwide. Tonight the programme includes suggestions for ways to celebrate the Royal Wedding. 6.55 Comedy Classics 1: Dad's Army. A welcome repeat adventure starring Captain Mainwaring and his odd platoon. An enemy parachute becomes entangled with the town clock (r).  
7.25 Comedy Classics 2: The Good Life. Tom and Barbara's lives have just increased by 400 per cent but their neighbours Margo and Jerry do not share their elation (r).  
7.55 Grace Kennedy. The talented singer has as her guest Martin Hamill (r).  
8.25 Love Story: A Chance to Sit

Down. Barbara (Jan Francis) is an up-and-coming young ballerina. She falls for the rich charm of one of the established dancers in the company. But then she meets George, a designer, and relationships become complicated. The first of four parts (see Personal Choice).  
9.00 News read by Kenneth Kendall.  
9.25 News. An everyday story of ordinary Texan folk. Sid and Karen blame each other for their son's behaviour.  
10.15 Public School. A birds eye view of Gaudy Day at Radley School (r).  
10.45 News headlines.  
10.50 Setback. A tribute to Louis Armstrong who died ten years ago this month written and presented by Mike Kennedy.  
11.35 Film: A Professional Gun (1981) starring Franco Nero and Jack Palance. A spaghetti western about a man who is

hired to protect some silver. But his lack of fidelity to his employer means he is up for sale to the highest bidder. Ends 1.25.

## Regions

5.55 VARIATIONS: Sports Watch. 5.55-6.00. 6.00-6.10. 6.10-6.20. 6.20-6.30. 6.30-6.40. 6.40-6.50. 6.50-7.00. 7.00-7.10. 7.10-7.20. 7.20-7.30. 7.30-7.40. 7.40-7.50. 7.50-8.00. 8.00-8.10. 8.10-8.20. 8.20-8.30. 8.30-8.40. 8.40-8.50. 8.50-9.00. 9.00-9.10. 9.10-9.20. 9.20-9.30. 9.30-9.40. 9.40-9.50. 9.50-10.00. 10.00-10.10. 10.10-10.20. 10.20-10.30. 10.30-10.40. 10.40-10.50. 10.50-11.00. 11.00-11.10. 11.10-11.20. 11.20-11.30. 11.30-11.40. 11.40-11.50. 11.50-12.00. 12.00-12.10. 12.10-12.20. 12.20-12.30. 12.30-12.40. 12.40-12.50. 12.50-1.00. 1.00-1.10. 1.10-1.20. 1.20-1.30. 1.30-1.40. 1.40-1.50. 1.50-2.00. 2.00-2.10. 2.10-2.20. 2.20-2.30. 2.30-2.40. 2.40-2.50. 2.50-3.00. 3.00-3.10. 3.10-3.20. 3.20-3.30. 3.30-3.40. 3.40-3.50. 3.50-4.00. 4.00-4.10. 4.10-4.20. 4.20-4.30. 4.30-4.40. 4.40-4.50. 4.50-5.00. 5.00-5.10. 5.10-5.20. 5.20-5.30. 5.30-5.40. 5.40-5.50. 5.50-6.00. 6.00-6.10. 6.10-6.20. 6.20-6.30. 6.30-6.40. 6.40-6.50. 6.50-7.00. 7.00-7.10. 7.10-7.20. 7.20-7.30. 7.30-7.40. 7.40-7.50. 7.50-8.00. 8.00-8.10. 8.10-8.20. 8.20-8.30. 8.30-8.40. 8.40-8.50. 8.50-9.00. 9.00-9.10. 9.10-9.20. 9.20-9.30. 9.30-9.40. 9.40-9.50. 9.50-10.00. 10.00-10.10. 10.10-10.20. 10.20-10.30. 10.30-10.40. 10.40-10.50. 10.50-11.00. 11.00-11.10. 11.10-11.20. 11.20-11.30. 11.30-11.40. 11.40-11.50. 11.50-12.00. 12.00-12.10. 12.10-12.20. 12.20-12.30. 12.30-12.40. 12.40-12.50. 12.50-1.00. 1.00-1.10. 1.10-1.20. 1.20-1.30. 1.30-1.40. 1.40-1.50. 1.50-2.00. 2.00-2.10. 2.10-2.20. 2.20-2.30. 2.30-2.40. 2.40-2.50. 2.50-3.00. 3.00-3.10. 3.10-3.20. 3.20-3.30. 3.30-3.40. 3.40-3.50. 3.50-4.00. 4.00-4.10. 4.10-4.20. 4.20-4.30. 4.30-4.40. 4.40-4.50. 4.50-5.00. 5.00-5.10. 5.10-5.20. 5.20-5.30. 5.30-5.40. 5.40-5.50. 5.50-6.00. 6.00-6.10. 6.10-6.20. 6.20-6.30. 6.30-6.40. 6.40-6.50. 6.50-7.00. 7.00-7.10. 7.10-7.20. 7.20-7.30. 7.30-7.40. 7.40-7.50. 7.50-8.00. 8.00-8.10. 8.10-8.20. 8.20-8.30. 8.30-8.40. 8.40-8.50. 8.50-9.00. 9.00-9.10. 9.10-9.20. 9.20-9.30. 9.30-9.40. 9.40-9.50. 9.50-10.00. 10.00-10.10. 10.10-10.20. 10.20-10.30. 10.30-10.40. 10.40-10.50. 10.50-11.00. 11.00-11.10. 11.10-11.20. 11.20-11.30. 11.30-11.40. 11.40-11.50. 11.50-12.00. 12.00-12.10. 12.10-12.20. 12.20-12.30. 12.30-12.40. 12.40-12.50. 12.50-1.00. 1.00-1.10. 1.10-1.20. 1.20-1.30. 1.30-1.40. 1.40-1.50. 1.50-2.00. 2.00-2.10. 2.10-2.20. 2.20-2.30. 2.30-2.40. 2.40-2.50. 2.50-3.00. 3.00-3.10. 3.10-3.20. 3.20-3.30. 3.30-3.40. 3.40-3.50. 3.50-4.00. 4.00-4.10. 4.10-4.20. 4.20-4.30. 4.30-4.40. 4.40-4.50. 4.50-5.00. 5.00-5.10. 5.10-5.20. 5.20-5.30. 5.30-5.40. 5.40-5.50. 5.50-6.00. 6.00-6.10. 6.10-6.20. 6.20-6.30. 6.30-6.40. 6.40-6.50. 6.50-7.00. 7.00-7.10. 7.10-7.20. 7.20-7.30. 7.30-7.40. 7.40-7.50. 7.50-8.00. 8.00-8.10. 8.10-8.20. 8.20-8.30. 8.30-8.40. 8.40-8.50. 8.50-9.00. 9.00-9.10. 9.10-9.20. 9.20-9.30. 9.30-9.40. 9.40-9.50. 9.50-10.00. 10.00-10.10. 10.10-10.20. 10.20-10.30. 10.30-10.40. 10.40-10.50. 10.50-11.00. 11.00-11.10. 11.10-11.20. 11.20-11.30. 11.30-11.40. 11.40-11.50. 11.50-12.00. 12.00-12.10. 12.10-12.20. 12.20-12.30. 12.30-12.40. 12.40-12.50. 12.50-1.00. 1.00-1.10. 1.10-1.20. 1.20-1.30. 1.30-1.40. 1.40-1.50. 1.50-2.00. 2.00-2.10. 2.10-2.20. 2.20-2.30. 2.30-2.40. 2.40-2.50. 2.50-3.00. 3.00-3.10. 3.10-3.20. 3.20-3.30. 3.30-3.40. 3.40-3.50. 3.50-4.00. 4.00-4.10. 4.10-4.20. 4.20-4.30. 4.30-4.40. 4.40-4.50. 4.50-5.00. 5.00-5.10. 5.10-5.20. 5.20-5.30. 5.30-5.40. 5.40-5.50. 5.50-6.00. 6.00-6.10. 6.10-6.20. 6.20-6.30. 6.30-6.40. 6.40-6.50. 6.50-7.00. 7.00-7.10. 7.10-7.20. 7.20-7.30. 7.30-7.40. 7.40-7.50. 7.50-8.00. 8.00-8.10. 8.10-8.20. 8.20-8.30. 8.30-8.40. 8.40-8.50. 8.50-9.00. 9.00-9.10. 9.10-9.20. 9.20-9.30. 9.30-9.40. 9.40-9.50. 9.50-10.00. 10.00-10.10. 10.10-10.20. 10.20-10.30. 10.30-10.40. 10.40-10.50. 10.50-11.00. 11.00-11.10. 11.10-11.20. 11.20-11.30. 11.30-11.40. 11.40-11.50. 11.50-12.00. 12.00-12.10. 12.10-12.20. 12.20-12.30. 12.30-12.40. 12.40-12.50. 12.50-1.00. 1.00-1.10. 1.10-1.20. 1.20-1.30. 1.30-1.40. 1.40-1.50. 1.50-2.00. 2.00-2.10. 2.10-2.20. 2.20-2.30. 2.30-2.40. 2.40-2.50. 2.50-3.00. 3.00-3.10. 3.10-3.20. 3.20-3.30. 3.30-3.40. 3.40-3.50. 3.50-4.00. 4.00-4.10. 4.10-4.20. 4.20-4.30. 4.30-4.40. 4.40-4.50. 4.50-5.00. 5.00-5.10. 5.10-5.20. 5.20-5.30. 5.30-5.40. 5.40-5.50. 5.50-6.00. 6.00-6.10. 6.10-6.20. 6.20-6.30. 6.30-6.40. 6.40-6.50. 6.50-7.00. 7.00-7.10. 7.10-7.20. 7.20-7.30. 7.30-7.40. 7.40-7.50. 7.50-8.00. 8.00-8.10. 8.10-8.20. 8.20-8.30. 8.30-8.40. 8.40-8.50. 8.50-9.00. 9.00-9.10. 9.10-9.20. 9.20-9.30. 9.30-9.40. 9.40-9.50. 9.50-10.00. 10.00-10.10. 10.10-10.20. 10.20-10.30. 10.30-10.40. 10.40-10.50. 10.50-11.00. 11.00-11.10. 11.10-11.20. 11.20-11.30. 11.30-11.40. 11.40-11.50. 11.50-12.00. 12.00-12.10. 12.10-12.20. 12.20-12.30. 12.30-12.40. 12.40-12.50. 12.50-1.00. 1.00-1.10. 1.10-1.20. 1.20-1.30. 1.30-1.40. 1.40-1.50. 1.50-2.00. 2.00-2.10. 2.10-2.20. 2.20-2.30. 2.30-2.40. 2.40-2.50. 2.50-3.00. 3.00-3.10. 3.10-3.20. 3.20-3.30. 3.30-3.40. 3.40-3.50. 3.50-4.00. 4.00-4.10. 4.10-4.20. 4.20-4.30. 4.30-4.40. 4.40-4.50. 4.50-5.00. 5.00-5.10. 5.10-5.20. 5.20-5.30. 5.30-5.40. 5.40-5.50. 5.50-6.00. 6.00-6.10. 6.10-6.20. 6.20-6.30. 6.30-6.40. 6.40-6.50. 6.50-7.00. 7.00-7.10. 7.10-7.20. 7.20-7.30. 7.30-7.40. 7.40-7.50. 7.50-8.00. 8.00-8.10. 8.10-8.20. 8.20-8.30. 8.30-8.40. 8.40-8.50. 8.50-9.00. 9.00-9.10. 9.10-9.20. 9.20-9.30. 9.30-9.40. 9.40-9.50. 9.50-10.00. 10.00-10.10. 10.10-10.20. 10.20-10.30. 10.30-10.40. 10.40-10.50. 10.50-11.00. 11.00-11.10. 11.10-11.20. 11.20-11.30. 11.30-11.40. 11.40-11.50. 11.50-12.00. 12.00-12.10. 12.10-12.20. 12.20-12.30. 12.30-12.40. 12.40-12.50. 12.50-1.00. 1.00-1.10. 1.10-1.20. 1.20-1.30. 1.30-1.40. 1.40-1.50. 1.50-2.00. 2.00-2.10. 2.10-2.20. 2.20-2.30. 2.30-2.40. 2.40-2.50. 2.50-3.00. 3.00-3.10. 3.10-3.20. 3.20-3.30. 3.30-3.40. 3.40-3.50. 3.50-4.00. 4.00-4.10. 4.10-4.20. 4.20-4.30. 4.30-4.40. 4.40-4.50. 4.50-5.00. 5.00-5.10. 5.10-5.20. 5.20-5.30. 5.30-5.40. 5.40-5.50. 5.50-6.00. 6.00-6.10. 6.10-6.20. 6.20-6.30. 6.30-6.40. 6.40-6.50. 6.50-7.00. 7.00-7.10. 7.10-7.20. 7.20-7.30. 7.30-7.40. 7.40-7.50. 7.50-8.00. 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3.10-3.20. 3.20-3.30. 3.30-3.40. 3.40-3.50. 3.50-4.00. 4.00-4.10. 4.10-4.20. 4.20-4.30. 4.30-4.40. 4.40-4.50. 4.50-5.00. 5.00-5.10. 5.10-5.20. 5.20-5.30. 5.30-5.40. 5.40-5.50. 5.50-6.00. 6.00-6.10. 6.10-6.20. 6.20-6.30. 6.30-6.40. 6.40-6.50. 6.50-7.00. 7.00-7.10. 7.10-7.20. 7.20-7.30. 7.30-7.40. 7.40-7.50. 7.50-8.00. 8.00-8.10. 8.10-8.20. 8.20-8.30. 8.30-8.40. 8.40-8.50. 8.50-9.00. 9.00-9.10. 9.10-9.20. 9.20-9.30. 9.30-9.40. 9.40-9.50. 9.50-10.00. 10.00-10.10. 10.10-10.20. 10.20-10.30. 10.30-10.40. 10.40-10.50. 10.50-11.00. 11.00-11.10. 11.10-11.20. 11.20-11.30. 11.30-11.40. 11.40-11.50. 11.50-12.00. 12.00-12.10. 12.10-12.20. 12.20-12.30. 12.30-12.40. 12.40-12.50. 12.50-1.00. 1.00-1.10. 1.10-1.20. 1.20-1.30. 1.30-1.40. 1.40-1.50. 1.50-2.00. 2.00-2.10. 2.10-2.20. 2.20-2.30. 2.30-2.40. 2.40-2.50. 2.50-3.00. 3.00-3.10. 3.10-3.20. 3.20-3.30. 3.30-3.40. 3.40-3.50. 3.50-4.00. 4.00-4.10. 4.10-4.20. 4.20-4.30. 4.30-4.40. 4.40-4.50. 4.50-5.00. 5.00-5.10. 5.10-5.20. 5.20-5.30. 5.30-5.40. 5.40-5.50. 5.50-6.00. 6.00-6.10. 6.10-6.20. 6.20-6.30. 6.30-6.40. 6.40-6.50. 6.50-7.00. 7.00-7.10. 7.10-7.20. 7.20-7.30. 7.30-7.40. 7.40-7.50. 7.50-8.00. 8.00-8.10. 8.10-8.20. 8.20-8.30. 8.30-8.40. 8.40-8.50. 8.50-9.00. 9.00-9.10. 9.10-9.20. 9.20-9.30. 9.30-9.40. 9.40-9.50. 9.50-10.00. 10.00-10.10. 10.10-10.20. 10.20-10.30. 10.30-10.40. 10.40-10.50. 10.50-11.00. 11.00-11.10. 11.10-11.20. 11.20-11.30. 11.30-11.40. 11.40-11.50. 11.50-12.00. 12.00-12.10. 12.10-12.20. 12.20-12.30. 12.30-12.40. 12.40-12.50. 12.50-1.00. 1.00-1.10. 1.10-1.20. 1.20-1.30. 1.30-1.40. 1.40-1.50. 1.50-2.00. 2.00-2.10. 2.10-2.20. 2.20-2.30. 2.30-2.40. 2.40-2.50. 2.50-3.00. 3.00-3.10. 3.10-3.20. 3.20-3.30. 3.30-3.40. 3.40-3.50. 3.50-4.00. 4.00-4.10. 4.10-4.20. 4.20-4.30. 4.30-4.40. 4.40-4.50. 4.50-5.00. 5.00-5.10. 5.10-5.20. 5.20-5.30. 5.30-5.40. 5.40-5.50. 5.50-6.00. 6.00-6.10. 6.10-6.20. 6.20-6.30. 6.30-6.40. 6.40-6.50. 6.50-7.00. 7.00-7.10. 7.10-7.20. 7.20-7.30. 7.30-7.40. 7.40-7.50. 7.50-8.00. 8.00-8.10. 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# OECD predicts slow recovery from recession

By Melvyn Westlake

Economic recovery in the industrialized world will take longer than expected and Britain's performance will continue to be worse than that of other big nations, according to economists at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The Paris-based organization says in its latest *Economic Outlook*, published this morning, that recovery in business activity seems likely to be delayed by six months or more.

Total output for the 24 OECD members may grow only slightly more than 1 per cent this year, picking up to about a 3 per cent annual rate in the second half of 1982.

The decline in Britain's output is predicted to end in the final quarter of this year, but the recovery is expected to be modest. Output in 1982 will be only about 4 per cent higher than for this year, the OECD predicts. As a consequence, employment will continue to contract throughout next year and the rate of unemployment will rise.

The percentage of Britain's labour force predicted to be without jobs—at about 12 per cent in the final months of next year—would be by far the highest of the seven leading industrial countries.

The OECD believes that the number of British jobless is likely to exceed three million by the end of next year.

Unemployment is expected to rise in most countries throughout the next 18 months, moving the OECD total from around 24 million in the first half of this year to 26½ million by the second half of 1982.

That means that the number of people without work will have risen in OECD member countries by over a fifth, on average, since 1980.

The jobless rates of relatively disadvantaged groups could be even higher, the *Economic Out-*

look says. In France, the United Kingdom and Italy, youth unemployment rates could go over 20 per cent. The United Kingdom has a youth unemployment rate close to this level already.

The OECD says that one main factor depressing business activity is the restrictive monetary and budgetary policies adopted by governments to slow inflation after the big oil price increase in 1973-1980. That factor is expected to diminish in importance as a constraint on output by next year.

But the world-wide rise in interest rates and the 20 per cent drop in the value of European currencies against the dollar could further the OECD says. The depreciation of European currencies is increasing inflationary pressures and redistributing demand, it adds.

Short-term prospects for inflation have worsened, although the OECD still expects the rate of price increases to decline slowly to about 8½ per cent in the later months of next year from an average of 10 per cent in the first half of 1981. The OECD says that the tight budgetary and monetary policies of governments have succeeded in containing price and wage increases, but that the momentum of inflation persists.

The *Economic Outlook* contains a hint of concern that the restrictive measures adopted by many governments could exacerbate inflation when the recovery comes, by reducing the longer-term growth capacity of the economy. That will be avoided only if the present tough measures succeed in permanently changing attitudes about inflation.

The OECD adds that it is not sure whether this is happening.

Arab petrodollar cut, page 20

## Passport offices staff instructed to return

In what the Council of Civil Service Unions said yesterday was a carefully planned change of strategy striking staff at six passport offices, plus 70 computer employees at the Portsmouth naval dockyard computer bureau were instructed to return to work.

The move means a gradual end to 13 weeks of disruption in passport offices which has led to long queues outside the main office in Petty France, London, and a backlog of written applications thought to be well over 150,000.

The CCSSU, who said that the return to work would be phased over several weeks, said that passport staff would be going back because the peak holiday season for applications was drawing to a close.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office yesterday advised the public to check with their local office.



Pick up a Picasso. Sir Roland Penrose (left) and Dr John Gilding prepare the Hayward Gallery, London, for Britain's largest exhibition of the artist's work. It opens in a week.

## Appeal lost in Ronan Point case

Taylor Woodrow Anglian has lost its appeal against a finding of breach of contract against the 22-store Ronan Point block of flats in 1968 dismissed yesterday.

The Court of Appeal rejected the company's appeal against a finding in December 1979 that the partial collapse of the East London tower block after a gas explosion on the eighteenth floor had been caused by the company's breach of contract.

A cross appeal by Newham Council against the finding, also in December 1979, that the contractor had not been guilty of negligence was dismissed.

Lord Justice Lawton, in a reserved judgment, said he was satisfied, on the balance of probabilities, that the contractor's breaches of contract did cause the progressive collapse. He said he could see no sufficient grounds for differing from the finding that would not be right to hold the contractor guilty of negligence.

Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice Brandon agreed in dismissing the appeals.

Four people were killed at Ronan Point after an explosion when a woman struck a match to light her gas cooker.

## Disappointed commission says Britain reneged

Continued from page 1

the prisoners while there was still some hope of saving the life of Mr Joseph McDonnell who died after 61 days on hunger strike.

In Belfast Mrs Bernadette McAleese, the former Westminster MP speaking on behalf of the National H-Block/Armagh Committee, called on the Commission, the Irish Government and major political parties to support their demand for direct talks with senior British Ministers.

Mrs McAleese said: "The five demands of the prisoners were not plucked out of the air nor are they as some paranoid prime ministers may think the result of a madman's whim."

She said: "The five demands are not a list of demands to follow. Together they form the bottom line of the necessary changes within the prison to bring to an end not only the hunger strike, the blanket protest, but the underlying everyday conflict which produced both."

Mr Gerry Adams, vice-president of Provisional Sinn Féin said "with Joe McDonnell dead and seven other hunger strikers facing near death in positions of power in Dublin in the Social Democratic Labour Party and in the Roman Catholic hierarchy are duty-bound to drop their ambiguous positions."

"Such ambiguity and calculated lack of action and leadership from these quarters has contributed to a large degree to Britain's refusal to deal directly and in a commonsense manner with the demands of the political prisoners."

Police in Belfast said yesterday that a port mortem would be held into the death of Mrs Norma McCabe, a mother of three, who died after being allegedly hit by a plastic bullet fired by the army during the street riots which erupted after the death of Mr McDonnell.

The Rev Ian Paisley, MP for Antrim north, has told the Lord Chamberlain that he and his wife cannot accept the invitation to attend the marriage of the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer. He said Cardinal Hume's part in the service is an "undermining of the Protestant foundation of our nation."

About 1,000 people, some carrying "hunger strikers" banners, demonstrated in front of the British Embassy in Paris yesterday to protest over Britain's policy in Northern Ireland. Many protesters carried pictures of Mr McDonnell.

## Shergar can stay in Europe for £10m

Shergar, the winner of the Epsom Derby and the Irish Derby, will stand as a stallion at the Aga Khan's Ballymore Stud in Ireland when his racing days are over at the end of this season.

The colt will have a capital value of £10m as a stallion and the Aga Khan is asking European breeders to support his plan by buying 34 shares at £250,000 each. He will retain six shares for his own mares and increase this in future years; a maximum of 55 mares to be covered annually.

A statement by the Aga Khan issued at Newmarket yesterday by Michael Stoute, his trainer, outlined plans to keep Shergar in Europe.

The Aga Khan wanted matters finalized before Shergar runs at Ascot in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes on July 25. If the offers are not taken up and the horse wins at Ascot, his value would increase considerably and breeders might miss the opportunity to keep Shergar in Europe.

The Aga Khan's statement revealed that he had been flooded with offers for Shergar from all over the world since the Irish Derby. The purchase of share nominations can be made in cash or paid for over three-and-a-half years.

Mr Stoute said: "The Aga Khan has sacrificed a lot to keep Shergar in Europe—this is an extremely generous offer. After the King George, the colt will be aimed at the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, and may have an intermediate race before going to France in October."

Shergar, a bay colt with a white blaze, was bred at the Aga Khan's Sheshoon stud in Ireland and ran twice as a two-year-old. With Lester Piggott up, he won first time out at Newbury in September last year.

As a three-year-old, Shergar has gone from strength to strength, winning the classic trials at Sandown and Chester and then the Epsom Derby, all for Walter Swinburn, Stoute's 19-year-old stable jockey.

At Portman Square yesterday morning Swinburn was suspended for 10 days for reckless riding on Harty Fought in last Sunday's Eclipse Stakes at Sandown Park (report, page 17).

Swinburn was barred for six days for careless riding on Centurion and this cost him the ride on Shergar in the Irish Derby on June 27, when he was replaced by Lester Piggott. At the Curragh, Shergar completed the Derby double, a standard-bearer of the moderns.

Mr Scargill starts as firm favourite in the race. His lead has been increased by a swing to the left in the union, evident in industrial and political decisions at its conference in Jersey this week.

Mr Gormley announced his retirement at the emotional close of the conference yesterday, and delegates gave him a standing ovation. It was not always a pleasant job and not always easy, he said "but we have made miners a little more respectable in the eyes of people. I leave you with regret."

After the formal announcement, Mr Scargill said he was confident of being elected.

He is to campaign on a platform of a four-day week for miners without loss of pay, retirement at 65, a minimum salary of £100 a week and better fringe benefits.

Mr Bell, a former miner, has yet to release his manifesto.

## London evening paper promised by Lornho

By Dan van der Vat

Lornho yesterday gave government consent to its takeover of *The Observer* after agreeing to stronger safeguards for editorial independence—and immediately announced that it would launch a London evening newspaper "as soon as possible."

The final consent to the takeover came after 12 hours of tough bargaining between Lornho directors, the editor and the journalists under the auspices of the Department of Trade officials. The result was a new agreement on editorial safeguards acceptable to all sides.

Mr John Biffen, the Secretary of State for Trade, told MPs that he had issued his consent to the transfer of ownership from Atlantic Richfield (Arco) yesterday. "The formal conditions I have attached are based on those attached to the transfer of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* to News International," he said.

The conditions provided for the independence of the editor in matters of opinion and news reporting, even if those conditions were to be modified by the new owner's opinion or interests. Five independent directors would serve on the board to resolve disputes over editorial independence, to consent by majority to the appointment or dismissal of the editor, and to those of themselves and their successors.

He had complete confidence in the independent directors. "The potentially dangerous recommendations of the monitoring commission have been assigned to oblivion, where they belong," he said.

Text of conditions, page 8

## Gormley says he will retire in March

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers for the past turbulent decade in the industry, yesterday ended many months of speculation about his future and announced that he will retire next March, four months before he has to go under the union's rules.

An election will be held in December or early January after the conclusion of negotiations on the miners' claim for 24 per cent pay rises. The winner will work in tandem with him for the first quarter of 1982.

Campaigning has been proceeding for some months. The two main candidates will be Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the Yorkshire miners, standing as the left candidate, and Mr Trevor Bell, secretary of the white-collar Colliery Officials and Staffs Area, standard-bearer of the moderates.

Mr Scargill starts as firm favourite in the race. His lead has been increased by a swing to the left in the union, evident in industrial and political decisions at its conference in Jersey this week.

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Mr Bell, a former miner, has yet to release his manifesto.

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

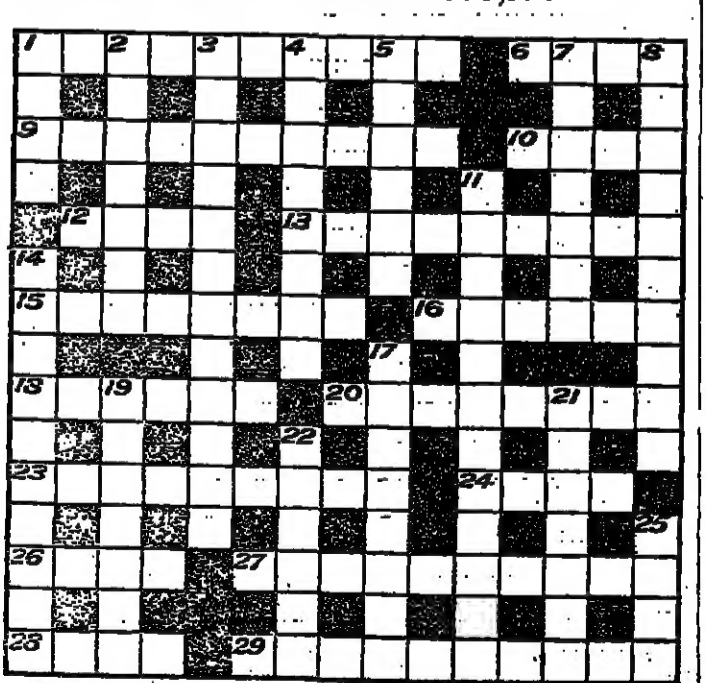
### Today's events

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visit Inverness-shire, King's Cross Station, 10.  
The Prince of Wales, patron, visits British Beer Society, south-west Scotland, 10.30.  
Princess Anne, President of Save the Children Fund, visits Knightsbridge Family Centre, Livingston, West Lothian, 10.30.  
The Duchess of Kent, patron, visits National Star-Centre for Disabled Youth, Chisleham, Gloucestershire, 2.  
Requiem Mass: Baroness Jackson of Lodsworth (Barbara Ward), Westminster Cathedral, 11.

### Talks

Dr Rhodes Boyson on Current Threats to Learning, Culture and Civilization, Royal Grammar School, Guildford, 8.  
"Jasper Johns' Dancers on a plane", by Richard Francis, Tate Gallery, 1.  
Anne Pearson on "Archaeic Greek Jewellery", 1.30.  
The treasure trove from the Sutton Hoo ship burial, British Museum, 1.15.  
"German Medieval Painting", by William Burgess, National Gallery, 1.30.  
"William Burgess's Palace of Art: Tower House, Kensington", by J. Mordant Crook, Museum of London, 1.30.  
Non-visual disability, Four Corners Cinema, 113 Roman Road, 7.

### The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,574



### ACROSS

- Whereby one may write as the quick moves (10).
- Second catcall gives us the bird (4).
- Cherry dressers? (10).
- Fleeky saint (4).
- A sound measure for the third man (4).
- Wayway (5).
- The super, taking time off at Lord's... (8).
- ... with a cutter evading duty (6).
- 11's last name was his first (6).
- Right to payment for an engineer's training (8).
- Funds of a retired chess-player say? (9).
- But this wheel is employed, keeping others turning... (4).
- 26... while machine strikes an antique (4).
- Girl's letter is somewhat off-pointing (10).
- When a spouse returns single? Right (4).
- Anne has got—gets tidily—funny business (10).

### DOWN

- Tower is in Pennsylvania? No, but you heard was this (7).
- Horses include fortunate one, given a walk-over on their (12).
- Old periodical tester (8).

### Poetry

Karen McCreary reads poems of Emily Dickinson, Marmalade Theatre, Puddle Dock, 1.05.

### Exhibitions

"Children First", Church of England Children's Society's centenary exhibition, Chelsea Old Town House, 10-15.  
Photographs by Jeff Katz, North Bedfordshire District Library, Bedford, 10.  
"A Bit of Classical", 10-15.  
"William Burgess's Palace of Art: Tower House, Kensington", by J. Mordant Crook, Museum of London, 1.30.  
Non-visual disability, Four Corners Cinema, 113 Roman Road, 7.  
Games Fair, Reading University, 6 pm.  
Cash and Carry Fashion Fair, London Press Centre, New Street Square, 10-15.  
Royal Windsor Rose Show, private grounds of Windsor Castle, Windsor, 10-15.  
Visiting ship, Argentinian, sailing training ship, Libertad, berthing at Greenwich, open to public, 3-5, access by launch from Greenwich Pier, along "Thames Heritage", waterborne spectacular illustrating history of river with Windsor Castle at backdrop, The Broom, Eton, 9.30 pm.

### Music

Bloomsbury International Festival: "Joy Unlimited", Ian Hall, 7.30.  
Musical Extradiff: International Mixed Chorus, Principals Cantorum and Chorus, 10-15.  
Lloyd Webber, Llangollen, Wales, 7.30.  
Castell Camerata, conducted by Geoffrey Bowyer, Christopher Stokes organ, madrigals, motets and part-songs, St Martin-in-the-Fields, 8.  
David Sherman, harpsichord, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, 1.10.  
Organ recital by John Walker, St Paul's Cathedral, 12.30.

### Auctions today

Philips, Blenheim Street: Silver and plate, 11. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Fine French furniture, 11. Sotheby's, Belgrave, Collectors, 11. Christie's, King Street: Important English coins in gold and silver, 10.30 and 1.30.

### Viewing today

Philips, Blenheim Street: Furniture, carpets, objects; antiques and modern jewellery; watercolours; Old Master paintings and drawings; works of art, 9.40-3.0.  
Bonnams, Montpelier Street: Silver and plate, 9.40. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Chinese ceramics; antiquities, 9.40-3.0.  
Christie's, King Street: Important English coins in gold and silver, 10.30 and 1.30.

### Parliament today

Commons, 9.30: Indecent Displays (Control) Bill, Lords amendments. Licensing (Amendment) Bill, committee stage. Lords, 11.30: Belize Bill, second reading. Debate on new information technologies. Published 10.25 and 10.30 and 10.35. Times Newspapers Limited, London WC1X 8ZZ.

### The Pound

	Bank	Bank
	buy	sell
Australia \$	1.72	1.65
Austria Sch	34.40	33.20
Belgium Fr	81.75	77.75
Canada Cdn	1.22	1.23
Denmark Kr	15.08	14.38
Finland Mk	5.90	5.50
France Fr	11.34	10.84
Germany DM	113.00	107.00
Greece Dr	11.08	10.25
Hong Kong \$	1.31	1.28
Ireland P	23.00	22.00
Italy Lit	455.00	430.00
Japan Yn	5.36	5.10
Norway Kr	12.00	11.40
Portugal Esc	125.00	119.00
Spain Ptas	167.50	178.50
Sweden Kr	10.22	9.67
Switzerland Fr	4.12	3.90
Yugoslavia Dnr	72.00	67.00

### Sporting fixtures

Cricket: Ticon Trophy final at Harrogate. Representative XI v Sri Lanka, at Nottingham.  
Racing: Meetings at York, Lingfield, Walsley and Ayr.  
Golf: State Express Classic, at the Belfry, Sutton Coldfield.  
Athletics: English Schools championships, at Yeovil.  
Sport on TV.  
BBC 1: 10.55 and 2.15 international golf.  
BBC 2: 4.20 and 11.35 international golf.  
BBC 1: 6.30 racing from York; 6.30 Thames sport.

### Gardens open

Saturday: Tillingstone Hall, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire; roses, herbaceous borders, greenhouses, 2-6.30.  
Saturday and Sunday: Foxcote, 41m west of Shipston-on-Stroud, Warwickshire, medium sized terrace garden, Chesham, E. Lavant, near Chichester, Sussex; 24 acres walled formal garden, flowering shrubs, vegetable garden and orchard, all owner maintained, 2-6. St Nicholas, Richmond, Yorkshire; medium large garden, interesting plants, rock garden and topiary, 10-7.  
Sunday: Chisenbury Priory, E. Chisenbury, Dorset; 25 acres, walled garden, waterfalls, ponds, herbaceous borders, 2-6. Woodcote, Rhu, Dumfriesshire, roses, formal pigeon exhibition, flower paintings by Lillian Blatherwick, 2-6. Tynningham, Dunbar, East Lothian; herbaceous plants, roses, 2-6. Boffracks, Aberfeldy, Perthshire; shrubs, perennials, alpine, 2-6. Abercorn House, South Queensferry, W. Lothian; walled garden, shrubs, roses, herbaceous plants, 2-6. The Denary, Thames Street, Somerset; Berkshire; two-acre garden by Gertrude Jekyll, house by Sir Edwin Lutyens, 2-6. Courtfield, Longhope, near Gloucester; Gloucestershire; three acres, stream, rock garden, plants for sale, Sheila MacQueen, Frances Perry and Roy Hay to meet visitors, 11-4. Addington Hall, near Shipston-on-Stroud; 6 acres, water garden, herbaceous borders and kitchen garden, 2-6.

### The papers

The Daily Mail feels it is no wonder that citizens are in despair with terror at night in the streets and mobocracy in the afternoon at Westminster.

The Sun attacks those civil servants who are refusing to handle the payment of benefits to the unemployed. It says that they should without doubt desert their posts.

Again emphasising the complexity of the street rioting, the Northern Echo deplores its use as a cause for the death of one man or another being peddled. "All its factors are interdependent. Some would not be in play without the others."

The Glasgow Herald, commenting on the closing of Indian stock exchanges, said it was a choice between saving the future of the Bourse or of the firm. It predicted that the Indian stock market would be a "mess" and that the government would be forced to buy and put its money in government bonds.

Frankfurter Allgemeine: "The German Cabinet will not be more than a delay in the intensive efforts to end all hunger strikes; the present hurdles are not even a small step towards the first hunger strike in the mass prison in two months should not make them insurmountable."

The New York Times comments in its news column on the proposed merger between Du Pont and Conoco. It says anti-trust forces would do well to investigate specific areas where the merger would create a monopoly rather than oppose it simply for the sake of the largest corporate merger in history.

### Roads

London and South-east: At 8 pm, the southbound carriageway of the M1 closes from Junction 7 (M10, St Albans) to Junction 10 (Watford/Harrow) until 6 am tomorrow. A diversion will be signposted via M10, A405 and A41 to Bovingdon.

Middlesex: Two-way traffic sharing one carriageway on M1 between Junctions 15 (Northampton) and 17 (Coventry South). Inside lane stage A1 closed northbound at Slough, EMI, Cambridgebridge. Two sets of temporary signals in use on A27 at Snake Pass, Derbyshire.

The North: North Yorkshire: A19 lane closures between Thirsk and Knaresborough for resurfacing. South Yorkshire: M1 lane closures due to subsidence between Junctions 30 (Worksop) and 32 (M18, Doncaster). Cheshire: A569 Northlands Lane, Widnes; major roadworks, severe delays.

## Weather

General situation: A trough of low pressure will become almost stationary in the N Sea while a ridge of high pressure moves E over N and W Britain.

### Forecast from 6am to midnight

London, SE, E England, East Angles: Cloudy with rain or drizzle, mainly drizzle, sun intervals developing, coastal mist or fog patches; mainly NW, light or moderate rain 22 to 24°C (72 to 75°F), cooler on coast.  
Central S, Central W, NW England, Midlands, Channel Islands, N Wales, Wales, W. Ireland: Mainly dry, sunny periods, mainly NW, light or moderate rain 19 to 21°C (66 to 70°F), cooler on coast.  
SW England, S Wales, N Ireland: Mainly dry, sunny periods, mainly NW, light or moderate rain 19 to 21°C (66 to 70°F), cooler on coast.

Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Central Highlands, Shetland: Mainly dry, sunny periods, mainly NW, light or moderate rain 19 to 21°C (66 to 70°F), cooler on coast.

NE England: Cloudy, thundery showers during day, mainly NW, light or moderate rain 19 to 21°C (66 to 70°F), cooler on coast.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind light variable, sun smooth. Channel: Wind light variable, sun smooth. Celtic Sea: Wind light variable, sun smooth. Irish Sea: Wind light variable, sun smooth.

Sun sets: 5.15 pm. Moon sets: 2.41 pm. Full moon: July 17.

### Lighting up time

London 9.45 pm to 4.25 am. Bristol 9.25 pm to 4.35 am. Edinburgh 10.25 pm to 4.12 am. Glasgow 10.05 pm to 4.24 am. Newcastle 10.10 pm to 4.55 am.

### At the resorts

	Sun	Rain	Max	C	F
E COAST	0.6	1.06	20	68	Cloudy
South-east	0.6	1.06	20	68	Cloudy
Brighton	0.6	1.06	20	68	Cloudy
Sheppey	0.6	1.06	20	68	Cloudy
Weymouth	0.6	1.06	20	68	Cloudy
Wexham	0.6	1.06	20	68	Cloudy
Weymouth	0.6	1.06	20	68	Cloudy
Weymouth	0.6	1.06	20	68	Cloudy
Weymouth	0.6	1.06	20	68	Cloudy
Weymouth	0.6	1.06	20	68	Cloudy

### Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Medium density clouds or fog, 1-3; high, 4-6; low, 7-9.

LONDON: SEAS (July 11) 3.2-3.10; NW: 3.2-3.10; SW: 3.2-3.10; E: 3.2-3.10; S: 3.2-3.10; W: 3.2-3.10; N: 3.2-3.10; NE: 3.2-3.10; SE: 3.2-3.10; SW: 3.2-3.10; E: 3.2-3.10; S: 3.2-3.10; W: 3.2-3.10; N: 3.2-3.10; NE: 3.2-3.10; SE: 3.2-3.10; SW: 3.2-3.10; E: 3.2-3.10; S: 3.2-3.10; W: